No. 2851.

SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1882.

PRICE THREEPENCE REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

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WE took up this "Animi Figura" with some misgivings. Of every poet it may be said that his mind to him a kingdom is; and the smaller the poet the bigger to him is that kingdom. Yet to make an "Animi Figura" interesting it is not enough that the portrait be true. The mind itself must be worth Whether Mr. Symonds's mind does or does not deserve all the generous trouble he has taken in delineating it, is not so important a question, however, as the more practical one, Where are we to find portrait galleries for the portraits of poetic minds which have been offered for hanging during the last year or two? The "London poets" alone are legion, it seems, and each one has painted the portrait of his mind (or hers) with as much earnestness and enthusiasm as Mr. Symonds has displayed in

The subjects upon which Mr. Symonds's mind has exercised itself are the greatest and the most momentous that Nature and human life have to offer. Hence it may be inferred that the mind he paints is at least bold. He who would discourse to us upon sorrow and love, personality and pain, life and death, requires something more than the mere accomplishment of verse, which in our time is universal almost. He requires to have had a life-experience, either in action or in emotion, more intense than common. What we mean is that, if the poet has not "lived largely" as a man of action or passion, he must have lived largely as a man of meditation. And to this kind of qualification it is quite futile for any writer to pretend who has it not. He betrays himself in a moment. The words "love" and "death," for instance, about which people rhyme so glibly, are really different words when used by the inexperienced versifier from what they are when used by men and women who have really felt love and really suffered from the ravages of death. It is the same with the word "sorrow." Most of the so-called sorrows and disasters of "the life poetic" are just the common sorrows and disasters of

of that curious reverence of human opinion which has been at once the chief agent in man's development and the main source of his follies and his crimes. But there are other sorrows of a different kind, the sorrows treated here: such as physical pain (either suffered or witnessed), such as the havoc made with our affections by the successive assaults of death—the terrors of isolation-the mournful regrets that come from the bitter consciousness which introspection brings us of the soilure of the soul that accompanies the passage from child-hood to the tomb, as though man's moral stamina were not even strong enough for his seventy years. These are certainly subjects beyond the treatment of the mere versifier. That they are not beyond the adequate treatment of Mr. Symonds, who is evidently born to meditate, the following beautiful sonnets will show:

THE THOUGHT OF DEATH. Will not the large life of the Universe Fulfil its children?—Haply 'twere enough Like April snakes to cast the treacherous slough Of fleshly stupors that the soul immerse. Who knows if Death, miscalled the primal curse, Be not life's crown of blessings? Stern and rough, His breath perchance will sever at a puff The birth-bred vapours that our sun amerce.

The self that binds thought, feeling, flesh in one, Is form, not matter; nay, whate'er we see,
Hath form; blank matter is a name or nought.
Shall then each point of vital unity
Perish? Or shall new webs of life be spun

To clasp it quivering in the skein of thought? These questions all men ask; but none can make Fit answer for their anguish here below. The howling whirlwinds of existence blow

The howling whirlwinds of existence blow
Onward for ever o'er an endless lake:
We watch the struggling barks around us take
Their fated course; and that is all we know;
They sail, they sink; no sign the waters show;
While straining myriads follow in our wake.
The force that speeds our flight we cannot see:
No voice of man or God survives the storm; Nor 'mid the weltering waves hath any form Risen to fill the vast vacuity:

Nay, if at times there stream athwart the night Some forkèd flame, it dazzles but to blight.

Not, indeed, that the sentiment here expressed is new, or that anything new can be said about death. The most primitive peoples in the most primitive times known all the lore and all the have known all the lore and all the wisdom that can be gathered by meditation upon death. When Bion lamented that the mallow, the anise, and the parsley had a fresh birth every year, whilst we men sleep in the hollow earth a long, unbounded, never-waking sleep, he had a lamentation which long but re-echoed a lamentation which, long before Greece had a literature at all, had been heard beneath Chaldean stars and along those mud-banks of the Nile which were, perhaps, the real cradle of the race. There is a tablet in the British Museum in which the abode of Nin-ki-gal, the Queen of Death, is thus pathetically described :-

To the house men enter, but cannot depart from; To the road men go, but cannot return. The abode of darkness and famine,

Where earth is their food,-their nourishment clay. Light is not seen; in darkness they dwell: Ghosts like birds flutter their wings there; On the door and the gate-posts the dust lies un-

disturbed. What is this but another form of Shak-

speare's Ay, but to die, and go we know not where ! and of those mournful allusions to Death

pictures of Mr. William Morris's 'Earthly Paradise'?

There is no thought more perplexing than the triviality of ordinary human life and the difficulty of associating with it the idea of immortality. These mean-souled strugglers for bread, and begetters of other strugglers, are they not endowed with too long a span of life already? This view of the human comedy has not escaped Mr. Symonds. He seems, indeed, to be a born meditator, and circumstances appear to have fostered within him the meditative temper.

THE THOUGHT OF DEATH.

Ah foolish Hope! How many flowers have faded Long ere the petals of their prime were spread; How many on dry earth their bloom have shed By blight deformed, by canker-worms invaded! To arch these aisles, these labyrinths colonnaded, That soar so light and lustrous overhead, To build these domes that echo to our tread, How many million men have died unaided! Each stone of this huge house of human thought Was hewn with sweat and sighs, with blood and

Cemented, by dumb children of blind years, Toiling instinctively and terror-fraught. 'Mid anguish and intolerable fears, Nor knowing what their bleeding hands had wrought.

Shall these arise winged by immortal mind,
Who toiled on earth obscure and vegetive?
If life be prescient thought's prerogative,
They can butdie whose germo! 'hought was blind.
Sightless and mute, leaving no trace behind,
See them whirl past like mists the breezes weave,
Blurred forms, and faces undemonstrative,
Blown by the blank and elemental wind.—
First founders of our race, the name whereby
God knows you in the place of death and hell.

God knows you in the place of death and hell, Is legion! Numberless they hurry by, Growing more vaporous; till who shall tell If those last shapes be men,—those clouds that fly 'Twixt lurid lights and glooms inscrutable?

Nor these alone perplex me : but I see The multitudes of babes untimely slain; The phalanx of bleared idiots in whose brain Echo is dumb; the blank-eyed company Of self-imbruted slaves, whose atrophy Sinks the blunt spirit beneath sense of pain; The serfs of crime and labour who remain Lost 'mid our daylight in dull misery:

All who through fault of self or circumstance Through sin of parents or through primal flaw, Live stunted, dwarfed, foredoomed to ignorance, Perverse, abortive, swerving from the law,
Twy-formed, twy-natured, crude, corrupted, raw—
How can these claim a God's inheritance?

Judging from certain sonnets in this volume, Mr. Symonds has lived in comparative solitude among Alpine and Apennine scenery, than which nothing is more calculated to foster meditation. It is there that Nature reasserts the dominance she once exercised everywhere over the mind of man. Excessive civilization, by exaggerating man's importance, dwarfs the soul, and sets the edicts of a petty convention above the absolute sanctions of Nature, so that it is in mountain fastnesses alone that in these days men can hold commune with her undisturbed. Yet there is one feature of the meditative temper which is perhaps neither happy nor entirely wholesome—that feeling of isolation which is expressed in certain sonnets of this volume. The fact is undeniable that to get by meditation close to the heart of Nature is in a certain sense to isolate oneself from the heart of man. poet's mind forms the habit of looking at human life as a spectacle—as a tragi-comedy, common life-fanciful and foolish woes, born | which disturb now and then the beautiful | indeed, amusing at one moment and sad-

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dening at the next. The real isolation underlying the closest intimacies of friendship becomes painfully apparent. Severe introspection lights up the poet's own personality until individual life seems only possible as an expression of egoism. And although between soul and soul there still "hangs the bridge of love," it seems to him as fragile a connexion between personality and personality as the rainbow path connecting the islets "in golden seas beyond the hills of Kåt."

This may be called the unpleasant side of the meditative temper. It is rendered with singular force and beauty in the following sonnets:—

PERSONALITY.

I know not what I am.—Oh dreadful thought!— Nor know I what my fellow creatures are: Between me and the world without, a bar Impalpable of adamant is wrought. Each self, from its own self concealed, is caught

Thus in a cage of sense, sequestered far
From comradeship, calling as calleth star
To star across blank intermediate naught.
His own self no man sees, and none hath seen
His brother's self. Nay, lovers, though they sigh
"There is no room for aught to come between

Our blended souls in this felicity,"
Starting from sleep, shall find a double screen
Built 'twixt two sundered selves—and both must
die.

Yea, both shall carry with them to the void Without, the void more terrible within, Tormented haply by the smart of sin, And cursing what their wilful sense enjoyed. Yet were they free to take or to avoid?

Yet were they free to take or to avoid? Who knows!—Amid the dull chaotic din Of wrangling schools which argument can win Conviction, when blind faith hath been destroyed? Freedom or servitude?—So fooled is man

By blind self-ignorance, he cannot say
If will alone beneath heaven's azure span
Its self-determined impulses obey;
Or if each impulse, wild as wind at play,
Be but a cog-wheel in the cosmic plan.

Prefixed to the poems is a short critical essay the sonnet. We cheerfully agree with on the sonnet. all Mr. Symonds's critical judgments upon the sonnet, its structure and its functions, though there is perhaps some little egotism in our doing so, those very same judgments having been often delivered in the Athenaum, although Mr. Symonds makes no mention of the fact. That is a matter of little moment; but Mr. Symonds should not be unjust to Mr. Hall Caine. When that gentleman, in his preface to 'Sonnets of Three Centuries,' spoke of the octave and sestet of the contemporary sonnet as being for the most part distinguished by a flow and ebb of metrical music, he was so careful to show that this was the one portion of his excellent essay which was not his own that he actually took the trouble of transcribing from the Athenaum the sonnet on the sonnet in which that theory was first formulated. Yet Mr. Symonds, while good enough to accept the theory, gives it as Mr. Caine's own, though he could not have possibly understood what the theory is without reading the quotation from the Athenæum.

The Records of St. Michael's Parish Church, Bishop's Stortford. Edited by J. L. Glasscock, jun. (Stock.)

ATTENTION is being drawn more and more to our old parish documents as men perceive that the memory of the life of the people of past times is only to be recovered, so far as it can be reconstructed at all, from purely local documents, such as church accounts

and manor rolls. So far as we remember no series of the latter has ever been printed; but we have now in type, in the Archaelogia, the Proceedings of county historical societies, and elsewhere, a considerable number of churchwardens' accounts, given either in full or in abstract. We cannot have too manythey belong to a class of documents peculiarly liable to destruction; and every single one that we have examined would prove a treasure to the student of language and The church accounts of Bishop's Stortford begin at an early date, though the series is very imperfect. It is unusual to find a parochial record of this kind reaching back beyond 1500. Here, however, we have one of 1431. Mr. Glasscock has published the earliest portion in the original Latin, but has translated others. This is an error on his part that it is difficult to pardon. Students require to have before them the writings of other times in the original, just as they were written, not in a version which, in Mr. Glasscock's opinion, represents in the modern vernacular what the scribe of four hundred years ago meant to record. If a new classical text were by some unlookedfor good fortune to be discovered, no one would think of printing it in English until the text itself had been carefully edited. We doubt if any one is capable of translating with perfect accuracy documents such as these. We have no doubt whatever as to Mr. Glasscock's capabilities. For instance, in an account which seems to be of the year 1489 there are several payments relating to new bells. One entry runs thus:

"In money paid 'pro sa'fitatone' of the aforesaid bells this year, 17s. 4d."

This not very difficult contraction has puzzled

This not very difficult contraction has puzzled Mr. Glasscock. Its meaning is, however, sufficiently obvious. The word meant was certainly sanctificatione, and the payment was for the expenses attending the blessing—baptism as it is sometimes called—of these

new bells.

The strangest error-for error we are sure it is, though we have never seen the original documents-occurs as to a word which Mr. Glasscock has translated "brass." In 1489 we have, "The profit of one q of brass given to the church by Sir William Say, Kt., 20s."; in 1495, "For the carriage of brass, 2d."; and again, in 1500, "The profit of 1 q of brass and one measure of corn given by the said Sr John Wylkynson towards the repairs of the church, 5s. 10d." The accounts overflow with entries relating to church ales and drinkings. One would have thought that these alone would have put the editor on the right track even if he had never heard of Brasenose College, Oxford, and the derivation which is commonly given for its singular name. The word he has rendered brass is some form or other of brasium, and signifies malt. It does not occur in some of our modern dictionaries, which are confined to words for which classical authority can be given, but may be found in Spelman, Blount, Cowel, Jacob, and many other books in common use. Though post-classical it is a very old word, and has been widely used on the Continent as well as here. Du Cange devotes several columns to it and the sister and daughter words, and quotes from the chronicle of the monastery of St. Riquier these lines :-

Rusticus hordea dat, multorum cœtus avenam, Plures dant Brasium, vinum plerique dederunt.

In churchwardens' accounts are constantly found entries as to gifts and purchases of malt. The church ale was in old days almost as necessary an institution as the daily services in the choir. It has been traced by speculative persons to the drinking bouts of our heathen forefathers. No evidence can probably be produced in proof of this fancy, but it is not easy to believe that there was ever a wide gap between the old festivals and the new. They gradually died out after the Reformation, but in out-of-the-way places lingered long. Whitsun ales, carried on much after the old manner, have been held within human memory in many of the villages of the Eastern shires.

It is well known to students of ancient manners that the 5th of November bonfires point to something much more ancient than the Gunpowder Plot. We have several instances in these accounts of money received by the churchwardens at "bonfyers": in 1519 it amounted to 7s. 2d. Ale was probably sold on these occasions and the receipts handed over to the church funds. Incense, it may be noted, was burnt in the church in 1625. Probably, however, it was used, not as a religious rite, but for the purpose of warding off infection. The entry runs, "For pitch and ffrancuncence to burn in the church, xiijd." As well as the church accounts the volume contains some inventories of church goods taken in the reign of Edward VI., and several documents which are well worth preserving. There are also lists of parish officials from an early period.

Facts about Manitoba. From W. Fraser Rae's 'Newfoundland to Manitoba.' Reprinted with large Additions from the Times. With two Maps. (Chapman & Hall.)

Canada. (Society for Promoting Christian

Knowledge.)

A Year in Manitoba, 1880-1881. (Chambers.)
Manitoba: its Infancy, Growth, and Present
Condition. By the Rev. Prof. Bryce.
With Maps and Illustrations. (Sampson
Low & Co.)

Any person who desires information about Manitoba has greater reason to complain of the multiplicity than of the scantiness of the literature of the subject. Each of the four books of which we have transcribed the titles has some value either as a record of personal experience or as a chronicle of historical events. 'Facts about Manitoba' is said in the preface to be chiefly a reprint from the author's larger work, made at the request of the Canadian Government for circulation at a low price. An additional chapter, giving the "Opinions of Manitoba Farmers," is now reprinted from the Times for the first time, while the appendix contains an interesting account by a working man of life in Manitoba, and a useful set of regulations for the guidance of those who desire to obtain land there. The work, which contains a large map of the Dominion of Canada and a smaller one of the Province of Manitoba, is offered to the public for six-

'Canada' is chiefly addressed to members of the Church of England, and though it

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deals with Canada as a whole, it contains a large mass of statistics about Manitoba. In 'A Year in Manitoba' a retired army officer narrates how he tried farm-

ing in Manitoba and settled his sons as farmers there. He had a better fate than he seems to have deserved, having bought a farm near Winnipeg before leaving England. Lest any one should be tempted to follow his example, we shall quote the passage in which he describes, first, what he had covenanted to receive," and, second, what he actually obtained :-

"(1) I was to have a farm of a hundred acres, ten acres of which were to be found broken and fenced, and were to be cropped (at my expense) with wheat and oats against my arrival. (2) I was to find a flower and kitchen garden. These, too, according to the season, were also to be planted. (3) There was to be a stable for three horses, and sheds for some dozen head of cattle the only reservation being that the roof would require repair before the winter. There were other advantageous conditions; let these suffice.

(1) The 'ten acres of tillage,' on inquiry—for the site of them was upward of a mile off through swamps waist deep—were found to be but five acres (that is, tilled and fenced), and they had been cropped on his own account by 'the man in charge,' but I was at liberty to share if I chose the terms being about a fourth of the crop when thrashed! (2) The flower and kitchen when thrashed! (2) The nower and kitchen garden had not the remotest sign of existence, all around the house being entirely open and unfenced, and the free pasture-ground of my neighbours' cattle. (3) The three-stalled stable and cattle shed proved a collection of ruined log buildings, that might have been stables, or barns, or what not in happier days; but at present were simply roofless piles of manure and rubbish."

Despite his disappointment, the retired officer did not lose heart. He and his sons put the house and land in good order, and then they had the misfortune to have their house burnt down. They took possession of another, worked hard, and prospered. At the end of the first year they made a profit of 100*l*., while the house and land had doubled in value.

A ten years' residence in Manitoba enables Prof. Bryce to write with authority. Yet his personal experience constitutes a small portion only of his volume, the greater part being devoted to a narrative of what Lord Selkirk did for what is now Canada's "Prairie Province." Lord Selkirk was a philanthropist whom his contemporaries, with a notable exception, did not appreciate. The exception is Sir Walter Scott. A letter written by Scott from Edinburgh in 1819 relative to Lord Selkirk is now published for the first time by Prof. Bryce. It was written at a time when Scott was suffering from serious illness, and when he was asked by Lady Katherine Halkett to aid in placing Lord Selkirk's actual achievements before the world :-

"The bad news your favour conveyed with respect to my dear and esteemed friends, Lord and Lady Selkirk, did not greatly tend to raise my spirits, lowered as they are by complete exhaustion.....I am afraid I have already said enough to satisfy your ladyship how ill-qualified I am, especially at this moment, to undertake a thing of such consequence as a publication of his case.....It is most painful to me, in these circumstances my dear Lady Katherine, to feel cumstances, my dear Lady Katherine, to feel that I should be attempting an impossibility in the wish to make myself master of the very un-pleasant train of difficulties and embarrassments in which Lord Selkirk has been engaged.....

Most devoutly do I hope that these unpleasant transactions will terminate as favourably as Lord Selkirk's ardent wish to do good and the sound policy of his colonizing scheme deserve; for, as I never knew in my life a man of a more generous and disinterested disposition, or whose talents and perseverance were better qualified to bring great and national schemes to conclusion, I have only to regret, in common with his other friends, the impediments that have been thrown in his way by the rapacious desire of this great company. I have been three days in writing this scrawl. I cannot tell you how anxious I am about Lord and Lady Selkirk."

In 1802 Lord Selkirk had formed the opinion that the best solution of Irish grievances was the emigration to Canada of the poor Irish. He was not the benefactor of any one part of the United Kingdom, and, owing to circumstances, his efforts to promote emigration from these islands had greater success in Scotland than elsewhere; it is unquestionable, however, that he had at heart the advancement and well-being of the realm. Lord Selkirk's policy, as set forth by himself in writings which are now so scarce as to be known to the minute students of modern bistory only, consisted in substance of the acknowledgment of the fact that in the Highlands of Scotland as well as in Ireland changes were in progress which necessitated emigration; and of the assertion that the duty of those persons who promoted emigration was to direct the wanderers to lands wherein they would acquire new homes under the British flag, and remain members and upholders of the British Empire. In 1803 as many as 800 Highlanders were induced by Lord Selkirk to settle on Prince Edward Island. The settlers flourished, and their descendants are now among the most prosperous and contented of all our colonial brethren.

Before helping to colonize Prince Edward Island, Lord Selkirk had proposed to the Government of Mr. Addington to establish a colony in what is now the province of Manitoba, but which was as little known to the public at the beginning of the century as the region around the North Pole is known to the public of our day. By setting forth what Lord Selkirk tried to accomplish, Prof. Bryce has added a new chapter to the history of this century. The labours of many travellers have enabled the readers of books to understand the nature of the vast tract of country which has been styled, with greater regard to effect than literal truth, "the great lone land." What must excite the surprise of any one acquainted with the territory is to find that so far back as the year 1802 Lord Selkirk should have formed an accurate opinion of its character, and should have urged upon the Government of his day the desirability of promoting emigration thither. In a memorial addressed to Lord Pelham, Secretary of State for the Home Department in 1802, a document now published for the first time, Lord Selkirk wrote the following words, which cannot be read at present without a feeling of respect for his acuteness and foresight :-

"No large tract of land remains unoccupied on the sea-coast of British America, except barren and frozen deserts. To find a sufficient extent of good soil in a temperate climate we must go far inland. This inconvenience is not, however, an unsurmountable obstacle to the

prosperity of a colony, and appears to be amply compensated by other advantages that are to be found in some remote parts of the British territory. At the western extremity of Canada, upon the waters which fall into Lake Winnipeg, and uniting in the great river of Port Nelson discharge themselves into Hudson Bay, is a country which the Indian traders represent as fertile, and of a climate far more temperate. fertile, and of a climate far more temperate than the shores of the Atlantic under the same than the shores of the Atlantic under the same parallel, and not more severe than that of Germany or Poland. Here, therefore, the colonists may, with a moderate exertion of industry, be certain of a comfortable subsistence, and they may also raise some valuable objects of exportation.....Some of the British traders have extended their discoveries into a climate which appears well adapted even for the vine, the sucseparars well adapted even for the vine, she suc-cessful cultivation of which would save immense sums that go every year from this kingdom into the hands of its enemies. To a colony in these territories the channel of trade must be the river of Port Nelson."

It is noteworthy that no one who advocates emigration to Manitoba now would have to use materially different phrases and inducements from those employed by Lord Selkirk eighty years ago. Still more striking is the fact that his preference for the river Nelson as "the channel of trade" coincides with projects now under discussion, and not un-likely to be carried into effect, of opening up communication between Liverpool and the Canadian North-West by way of Port Nelson.

Prof. Bryce tells the story of the struggle to form a colony on the Red River in great detail. He errs in endeavouring to make his book both a biography of Lord Selkirk and a history of the foundation of Manitoba. The reader does not get enough of biography, and the history is scarcely as complete as could be desired. An important omission relates to the "free traders," of whom Dr. Schultz, a member of the Dominion Parliament, was one of the most successful, and who were thorns in the sides of the Hudson Bay Company. This company, when amalgamated with the North-West Company—which Prof. Bryce proves to have compassed the extermination of the settlers in the Red River valley-was not much more tolerant than its high-handed rival.

Many readers will take a greater interest in what Prof. Bryce writes from personal experience than in the historical details which he has collected with diligence and set forth with skill. He writes of the province wherein he is an honoured and influential citizen in terms of great but welldeserved praise. As a specimen of his own opinions, the following brief passage will suffice :-

"To the writer the past ten years in Mani-toba seem like a dream. In the rapidity of change there has hardly been the time for any-thing to seem real. The conclusions of one year as to the country have had to be abandoned as to the country have had to be abandoned the next as development took place. The vast extent of the region grows on the mind by degrees. One's ideas of distance change; it seems no more to overtake a hundred miles than it formerly did to go twenty. The most fondly cherished delusions of the unfitness for settlement of certain opening regions have to be abandoned as flourishing settlements rise; and the railway is making such a transformation as to make the 'oldest inhabitant' wonder whether to make the 'oldest inhabitant' wonder whether he may not be in an enchanted land......For poor man and for capitalist alike Lord Selkirk's Utopia is becoming the means of comfort and advancement."

The Kentish Garland. Edited by Miss Julia H. L. De Vaynes. With Notes, &c., by the Rev. J. W. Ebsworth. Vol. II. (Hertford, Austin & Sons.)

To say that this volume fulfils in every way the expectations raised by its predecessor is far from doing full justice to the editors. Admirably conceived, and as admirably carried out in a spirit of genuine love for the subject, the two volumes form the most interesting, as they are the most nearly complete, of our county anthologies. The present volume, which consists of nearly five hundred pages, is devoted to poems and ballads on persons and places connected with the county. The contents are as varied as they are numerous. Every phase of life and society is amply illustrated: Deal, Deptford, Dover, Gravesend, and Greenwich supply songs of the sea; conviviality has its representatives in the 'Cole-Hole Club at Chatham,' the 'Incomparable Strong Beer of Knole,' &c.; religion its in Occleve's poem on Sir John Oldcastle and a 'Satire on the Lollards'; history its in the poems on Wat Tyler, Jack Cade, Wolfe, and others. Lovers of scenery will be attracted by the glories of Penshurst and Knole, while the more seriously inclined can meditate with Mr. Ebsworth 'Under the Molash Yews,' and those who wish to study the darker side of human nature will find abundance of material in the "Gallows Group." The necessity of keeping the volume within reasonable limits has, of course, compelled the editor to omit many pieces which her readers would gladly have seen included in the collection. Room might, however, have been found for the interesting song written about 1470 by J. Wolstane, an ecclesiastic of Canterbury, which Mr. Ebsworth has printed in his "Amanda" group of the 'Bagford Ballads.' Still, nobody who loves "a ballad but even too well" would wish a single one of the pieces here brought together to be omitted. Mr. Ebsworth has continued his task with his usual earnestness and enthusiasm, and has again poured forth a mass of notes and illustrations, to which the volume owes no small part of its value and interest.

Nothing comes amiss to him, nor does he ever seem to be at fault. The variety of his illustrative notes-from a churchwarden's bill for a vestry dinner, in which the wine, &c., appears to have cost four pounds, and the eatables only just a third of that sum, to the complete bibliography of a ballad-shows the range of his reading and the excellence of his memory. Of the poem on Sir John Oldcastle, Miss De Vaynes has done well in asking her readers to be content with an analysis instead of reprinting it in its entirety, since, irrespective of its length, its controversial tone and heaviness would make it appear rather out of place in the present collection. Still, historically, it is both valuable and interesting, and many of our readers will be glad to learn that it has been edited by Miss Toulmin Smith (in Anglia for April of this year) in its entirety, not from the Grenville MS., which is a late modernized copy, but from the original MS. used by Mason for his edition of Occleve's poems printed in 1796. This MS. Mr. Ebsworth appears to look upon as lost; but such is not the case,

it being still in existence in the library of the late Sir Thomas Phillipps (press-mark, No. 8151), by whom it was purchased at the sale of Heber's collection. From a copy made a few years ago of this MS. it is clear that the omission of stanzas fifty-one to fifty-nine from the Bodleian and Grenville MSS., to which Mr. Ebsworth refers in his note on p. 482, is apparent only, the poem being complete, but the numbering of the stanzas wrong. Evidently both these MSS. were transcribed from an earlier copy of the original, in which the scribe had made a mistake of ten in his numbering. It may not be out of place here to mention that there is another (probably autograph) MS. of Occleve's minor poems in Bishop Cosin's Library, Durham (press-mark, No. v. iii. 9), dedicated by him to "my lady of Westmerlande."

The pieces in the present collection which relate to places in Kent number sixty-six, arranged alphabetically and representing twenty-three different localities. Miss De Vaynes does not, of course, profess to print all, or even a tithe, of the pieces connected with the county, but she has striven—and that, as all will acknowledge, withentire success—to give a fairly representative selection. Preceding these poems on places are printed some twentyfive on notable characters more or less closely connected with Kent. In them we have presented to us, in homely contemporary language, vivid illustrations of the valour, loyalty, and political struggles of Kentish patriots. The names of Thomas à Becket, Wat Tyler, Sir John Oldcastle, Jack Cade, Henry Brooke, Lord Cobham, Sir George Rooke, and General Wolfe will suffice to show how wide is the range of these poems and how varied are their subjects. Indeed, it requires little study of this volume to see how intimately Kent has in every century been identified with the history of the whole country. We must not omit to mention that Mr. Ebsworth has contributed to the present collection no fewer than four original poems, written in his usual style, one of which, 'Under the Molash Yews,' will be read with especial interest. The volume is supplied with a most admirable index, also furnished by Mr. Ebsworth, comprehensive enough to satisfy the most exacting of readers, as well as an elaborate table of first lines, burdens, and tunes. We part from the work with regret, and with a sincere hope that the collaborateurs will not rest here, but will in time present us with another volume, as interesting, as valuable, and as admirably carried out as the 'Kentish

The Religions of India. By A. Barth. Authorized Translation by the Rev. J. Wood. (Trübner & Co.)

Among the valuable contributions to the history of Oriental literature, philosophy, and religion by which the enterprise of Messrs. Trübner & Co. has successfully endeavoured to supply the English public with an accurate and exhaustive knowledge of thought and feeling in the East, there is scarcely any publication so pre-emi-nently adapted to its purpose as M. Barth's masterly sketch of the religions of India, which appeared originally in 1879 as an article in the 'Encyclopédie des Sciences Religiouses,' and was afterwards, in the

course of 1880, considerably enlarged, revised, and recast into its present shape.

M. Barth modestly calls it a résumé, and that it is, no doubt, in the best sense of the word, since it gives, in a necessarily condensed but nevertheless most attractive form, enhanced by the charms of a lucid and vigorous style, the latest results of inquiry in all the provinces of this vast domain. Those only who know the immense difficulty of this intricate subject and the mass of conflicting evidence can fully ap-preciate the conscientious labour bestowed upon this work, and the sound judgment with which, out of the perplexing maze of English and continental editions, translations, and essays bearing upon the historical theology of India, all those important points are disentangled which have passed the preliminary stage of disputed authenticity, and have been accepted as established facts by the most competent scholars both in the East and West. But the learned author has not stopped here—he has exercised his great critical power on many disputed theories too; and these problems, even if not completely solved, are brought at least by the new light he throws upon them considerably nearer to a final solution. The principal question—the key-note of the whole is the close connexion of the neo-Brahmanic religions with the most ancient forms of Hindû worship. M. Barth shows (in complete harmony with the views expressed by Prof. Thiele of Leyden) that the hymns of the Veda are of an exclusively sacerdotal character, without the slightest trace of popular derivation; that, therefore, Vedic and Aryan are by no means synony-mous terms; and that India has possessed from a remote antiquity, alongside of its Veda, a popular religion equivalent to the great Civaite and Vishnuite systems of more recent times. The masterly way in which he traces modern doctrines and forms of worship to their original source, to an old popular religion co-existent with Vedic literature, and proves many of these new deities to be either fuller developments of the old Brahmanic gods or direct offspring of wicked divinities which were already contemporary with the pure incarnations of the Godhead in the Vedic hymns, and only consigned by them to oblivion for a long time, forms one of the greatest charms of this work, and ought to recommend it to the careful perusal both of Sanskrit scholars and of students of comparative religion in general. The principal results of this interesting investigation are summed up in the following words :-

"The Vedic gods are undisguisedly mythical and dissolve under the first efforts of reflection into pantheism; the new gods have more distinctly defined features, full biographies, and therefore their tendency is towards a personal monotheism or organized polytheism under a supreme god. To reconcile both we see the greatest attempt in the Trinity of Çiva, Vishnu, and Brahma, which is not the starting-point of the new sects, but an outcome of these, whose

existence it presupposes.'

Of an eminently practical importance for the social and religious life of India are two other problems in which M. Barth's views again differ from those of his most renowned contemporaries, viz., the origin of caste and the alleged influence of Christianity on modern Hinduism. With regard to the

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former, he strongly denies its great antiquity, and contends that its first general development coincides with the appearance of a foreign proselytizing religion in India. He even makes Buddhism responsible for the introduction of caste into several countries (for instance, the Dekhan, Ceylon, &c.) where it did not exist. Prof. Weber's theory that Christianity shaped to a certain extent Vishnuism, and especially the Krishna worship, is refuted in a very clever and convincing manner. M. Barth points out that their true germs are to be found both in the system of the Vedânta and in the Buddhistic fables, and that, moreover, all the striking points of resemblance in Krishna have no bearing upon the essential dogmas of Chris-

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Apart from these important problems the most interesting chapters are undoubtedly those which the author devotes to a minute exposition of the philosophy of the Vedanta and of the Buddhistic creed, and it is only to be regretted that the newest and most excellent work on Buddha's life and doctrines, by Hermann Oldenberg (Berlin, 1881), appeared too late to be consulted for this book. Less satisfactory is the sketch of Jainism, but we can scarcely blame M. Barth for his shortcomings in this direction; the chief fault lies with the uncertain character of Jaina tradition and the very poor and defective literary material as yet published. Among the reforming sects of modern India appear as the most prominent that of Kabîr, who, according to M. Barth's calculation, taught in the beginning of the fifteenth century of our era, and the closely related religion of the Sikhs. Both show unmistakable traces of the influence of Mohammedanism, and the occasional glances the author casts here on the development of Islâmism in India are the more valuable as this great creed, being a foreign importation, and not a product of the native soil, is unfortunately outside the sphere of a book that purposes to deal exclusively with the national religions of

Scrupulous attention has been paid throughout to a scientifically exact orthography, and as far as Hindû terms are concerned the transcription is excellent. We only take exception to the spelling of a few Mohammedan names; for instance, "Dârâ Shakôh?" instead of Dârâ Shukôh, and "Farokshîr" instead of Farrukhsiyar.

### NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

A Faithful Lover. By Katharine S. Macquoid. 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)
Three Fair Daughters. By Laurence Brooke.
3 vols. (White & Co.)
We Costelions. By J. Sale Lloyd. 3 vols.

(Tinsley Brothers.)

Traseaden Hall. By Major-General W. G.

Hamley. 3 vols. (Blackwood & Sons.)

The Golden Prime. By Frederick Boyle.

3 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)

Coals of Fire, and other Stories. By David Christie Murray. 3 vols. (Chatto & Windus.)

The difference between English and French customs in the matter of marriage is a favourite topic with lady novelists. Mrs. Macquoid has hit upon a method of illustrating it which has some claims to originality. In the Prologue the reader finds Esau Runs-

wick, a young Englishman, residing in a little Norman town. He falls in love with the young daughter of a neighbouring count, and, after pledges given and received, sees her, in spite of all, wedded according to the convenances to the man of her parents' choice, and has the additional mortification, some months after, of accidentally overhearing her express her entire content with the arrangement. When the story proper begins, some years later, he is living a recluse in a Yorkshire village between the moors and the sea, and acting as a guardian to an orphan niece, whom he presently makes over to other friends. A further gap of twelve years brings the story to the time when this niece, Clemency Ormiston, now grown up, comes back to him. She is a young lady of unconventional character, fond of wandering on the moors, and determined to make friends with her grim uncle. To them enters, in the guise of an amateur artist, Ralph de Kerjean, son of Runswick's faithless love, who, having inherited from his father estates in Yorkshire as well as in Brittany, has been educated as an Englishman. Of course the young people meet on the moor and fall in love with each other. Equally of course Runswick is determined that his niece shall marry a neighbouring squire of twice her age, and is only confirmed in his determination by the discovery of De Kerjean's parentage. How the matter turns out our readers may discover from the book itself. The notion is, as has been said, somewhat original and ingenious, but it is unlucky that the necessity of filling three volumes has compelled Mrs. Macquoid to dilute her story with superfluous scenes and characters till it becomes now and then a little wearisome. The rector, and the rector's wife (who suffers from gout—this is perhaps a novel idea), and the late rector's sister (who continues to live in the parsonage, by permission, we presume, of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners), and the people who talk broad Yorkshire-none of these really has much to do with helping on the story. One has a kind of feeling that the author has heaps of them in stock, and just takes out as many as she wants to give her book the necessary bulk. If they said wise or witty things they would be all very well; but they do not—therein, doubtless, being all the truer to nature. Clemency is, indeed, the one interest-ing figure in the book, as the author herself doubtless feels. Mrs. Macquoid generally writes with care, so it is not surprising that we only find two minor slips to notice. A man does not, outside of 'Pick-wick,' become your father-in-law by marrying your mother. "Walls painted a pale wainscot" does not present any idea to our mind, nor can we even conjecture the colour which this odd term denotes. "Wainscots painted a pale wall" would seem equally intelligible.

Mr. Brooke's is a pleasant enough story, glibly written, and capable of being easily read. The yarn is spun from an old material. A family reduced to poverty by careless extravagance is restored to prosperity by the charms and the wits of its daughters, and especially by the self-sacrifice of one of them, who accepts a legacy from a rich uncle at the cost of her betrothed lover. The three Miss Chesters are all more or less heartless.

though not in a very repulsive sense. They regard themselves as merely prudent and worldly-wise; and indeed the verdict of the majority of Mr. Brooke's readers is likely to be given almost wholly in their favour. If the one who makes the sacrifice just referred to robs her two cousins of their admirers, throwing over the first for her uncle's money and passing on the second to her sister, she does it less of malice prepense than by the passive strength of her superior attractiveness, and her selfishness is redeemed in more ways than one. Hers is the best-drawn character in the book, and perhaps the most worthy to be drawn. In fact, Mr. Brooke has told well what he had to tell, and has produced three readable volumes, natural, entertaining, and fairly artistic. His style is easy, and even a little flippant; but he has some tricks of language which would debar any claim to elegance. On the whole, however, 'Three Fair Daughters' is a pretty and a prettily written tale, showing a distinct improvement upon its author's previous work.

Mrs. Lloyd's story would have run the risk of being taken for the effort of a tyro in fiction if its title-page did not vouch for the fact of her experience as an author. It is in no sense original, and the style and treatment are not far above the level of a schoolgirl's compositions. The studious morality and propriety of the tale lead one to suspect that it was intended in the first instance to be "a story for the young"; and sentences like this would seem to show that the instruction of its readers was as much an object as their amusement:—

"The ceterach and asplenium ruta muraria nestled between the rough old stones; the polypodium vulgare and asplenium trichomanes, or common maidenhair spleenwort, also took root among its ancient masonry, while the timehonoured ivy half covered its walls, and peeped in at the windows."

Another example: the narrator's stepmother has an accident, whereupon she moralizes in this fashion:—

"It was sad to think that the carelessness of the builder of our house should have caused so much suffering; that the apparently small omission of an escape pipe for the steam should have occasioned such a melancholy accident. True indeed is it that great endings come from small beginnings. [Here follow eight lines of verse.] These were the words that occurred to me as I pondered over why such things should be—it was like the old story of the nail. [Here follow four lines of apothegm.] And for want of a small pipe for the steam to escape by, my father's wife was lost."

But it is not all so didactic as this. There is a continuous series of incidents, and the chequered story of the Costelions is not without interest. Nevertheless it is a story which does not do Mrs. Lloyd justice. It is much too trivial and weakly put together for the author of six or more published works of fiction.

Anything written by General Hamley is likely to have merits, and 'Traseaden Hall' has many. They are easy to see. The author writes not only like an accomplished scholar, but like a man of the world. His tale begins at the end of the last century, and goes on to somewhere about the time of the battle of Waterloo. The history and the manners of the time are used with skill; the characters are lifelike, and are drawn

with geniality and humour; the episodes in the story are many of them vivid, the scenes in the Peninsular War being especially graphic and stirring; and the author is as successful with his women as with his men. Looked at in detail the book is excellent. but as a whole it has serious defects. The story, it must be confessed, is rather tedious. It is, indeed, a chronicle rather than a novel. The reader is never sure when he has got hold of the main thread of the plot. The style of narration which resorts to retrospect is always wearisome. As Mr. Trollope pointed out in one of his recent novels, a novelist must say something about the anteeedents of his characters, and if he puts the cart before the horse, still he must bring in the horse sooner or later. But General Hamley begins really much too early in the history of his characters. Judging by the story as developed in the third volume, it is clear that nearly half the book might have been left out. That this is the proper way to judge of it is obvious, because the early part of the story really leads to nothing, and was not constructed so as to lead to anything. Rightly enough the hero is the person about whom the interest is centred, and therefore the family history of the heroine's relations puts the reader on a wrong scent. It is true that this history is related in a sparkling manner - indeed, the cleverness of it is only too apparent; the style is hardly simple enough for rapid narrative; the reader's attention is diverted by so many brilliant sentences and pointed allusions, and his patience is sometimes tried by the frequent retrospect. Still, on the whole, 'Traseaden Hall' is a work of

conspictious ability.

Mr. Frederick Boyle is known as the author of 'Camp Notes' and 'Legends of my Bungalow,' but he does not shine as a novelist. The adventures, small and great, which he introduces into his three volumes are told in a lively manner, but he has not the skill to bring them well into a connected story, and his pictures of men and women are crude and sometimes even grotesque.

Most people think they could write a novel. It seems to be thought that the power is innate and does not require training. Mr. Boyle's case is one more warning to such people. To throw into the form of a story the requisite amount of the sort of matter which he has often written with success has

not been enough to create a good novel. Mr. Christie Murray's collection of stories is not open to the charge which must usually be brought against such collections. It contains, at all events, one piece of work which is excellent. Mr. Murray, of course, was aware that 'Coals of Fire' was the best of his collection, and wisely placed it first. It is a story of great power and pathos, simple, subdued, and effective. The materials are not far-fetched, being taken from the life of a Cheap Jack, but two at least of the characters introduced are perfect studies of human nature. The other stories are of unequal merit. Some are ingenious in plot; one or two show the same power which is seen in 'Coals of Fire' of extracting pathos from simple incidents; and all are related in a bright and vigorous style. It is not often that three volumes of short stories can be read with such continued pleasure. Still the first is so much the best that it seems not unlikely that the author might have been wiser if he had published it alone. It is not too late to issue it separately in a cheap form. But Mr. Murray gave so much promise as a novelist, that it is to be regretted that he has spent his time upon short stories instead of concentrating his energies upon'a larger work, especially as good novels seem to be much wanted just now.

#### SCHOOL-BOOKS.

Many volumes of selections from English authors similar to Mr. Thomas Arnold's English Poetry and Prose (Longmans & Co.) are already in existence, some fairly good, some downright bad. The present compilation, though not without its defects, which must to a certain extent operate adversely to its usefulness, is still one of the best, if not the best, we have met with. It is not intended to stand alone, but to be used in conjunction with the editor's 'Manual of English Literature,' to which it will be found a useful if not an indispensable complement. Mr. Arnold has arranged his selections in seven chapters. The first, preliminary, embraces what he terms the Anglo-Saxon and Norman period, he terms the Anglo-Saxon and Norman period, from Cædmon to the middle of the fourteenth century; the second, "Early English," includes nearly the whole of the succeeding century, and is followed in order by the "Renaissance," the "Elizabethan," and "Stuart" periods, and the "eighteenth" and "nineteenth" centuries. The preliminary and, in a lesser degree, the second chapters are very meagrely represented, probably, though the editor does not say so, owing to the fact that the period included has already been thoroughly illustrated in the works of Dr. Morris and Prof. Skeat. But if the authors selected were worth representation at all, certainly longer extracts should have been given. Eighteen works are quoted from in the preliminary chapter—two of which, by the bye, are French, viz., eight lines from the 'Chanson de Roland' and a short extract from Wace-and the whole occupy only twenty-four pages. The same defect runs, though not to so great a degree, throughout the book. The illustrative extracts in the 'Manual' were necessarily short; but the same reasons do not apply here, and it is to be feared that Mr. Arnold, in his anxiety to make his selection as wide and as varied as possible, has at times failed to give passages sufficiently ex-tended to allow of an independent opinion being formed on the style, manner of expression, and cast of thought of the author cited. The volume has a further defect. Many of the passages quoted are taken at second hand from existing "Selections," or from modern reprints or editions, in which the spelling has been represented. normalized. In several instances this has been done where there would not be the slightest difficulty in obtaining access either to the original MSS. or the first editions, or to exact reprints. The aim and intention of a book of this kind are, or ought to be, not merely to interest, but to instruct; and an editor, compiling such a work with the hope of interesting and benefiting the student of English literature, should not, except in cases of insuperable difficulty, be content to take his extracts at second hand, but should present them to his readers in the exact spelling and the exact diction of the author. An extract from Lyly or Sidney or Ascham loses half its interest and more than half its value when presented in a modern dress. Mr. Arnold has not even the excuse which the compilers of previous similar works might have urged, for the numerous publications of the various societies during the past ten or fifteen years have rendered the rarest of books accessible to all. Looking at the compilation as a whole, we may say that the passages have been carefully selected from a wide range of

authors. Many, of course—perhaps the majority—are the same as we have already met with in similar works, but this is to a great extent unavoidable. Amongst the new extracts several are really interesting and useful. Glancing down the list of authors and works represented, we miss the names of some which deserve illustration certainly not one whit less than many from which Mr. Arnold has given extracts. In Middle English we should like to see a passage or two from the 'Cursor Mundi,' a work which contains many parts admirably adapted for quotation, and not only interesting in themselves, but also calculated to be of the greatest value to the calculated to be of the greatest value to the student of our language. Of modern authors we miss George Eliot, Lytton, Kingsley, Charlotte Brontë, and others. On the whole, Mr. Arnold may be said to have produced a really useful volume, though its value would have been greatly increased had he seen his way to give longer examples than in all but a few instruces he had done. few instances he has done. The book is singularly free from errors. One slip should be corrected: the date of the 'Not-Browne Mayd' is 1502, not, as stated, 1521. The authors are dated throughout the book, but it would have been an advantage if the date of the particular work quoted from had also been stated. The volume may be recommended for the use of the higher classes in schools in conjunction with the editor's 'Manual.'

The Standard Grammar: being a Complete View of the Words and Sentences of the English Language. With Parsing, Analysis, and 356 Exercises. By J. M. D. Meiklejohn, M.A. (Chambers.)—Four distinct books, adapted to Standards II.-V., make up this useful addition to Chambers's Educational Series. Prof. Meiklejohn's method of setting forth the facts and laws of the English language is well suited for the classes he has in view. He first takes single instances, which he explains with great distinctness and completeness, and then states the general principles they exemplify in a clear and compact form, adding occasional summaries of what has preceded, and numerous exercises to be worked at every stage. In this way he ensures a right understanding and retentive remembrance of the subject by those whom he Useful light is thrown on some points by occasional references to Early English. The subject of the analysis of sentences, which occupies the whole of the fourth book, is fully and ably treated. We cannot see the great advantage of his so-called mapping of sentences. It is true enough that, as he says, when a sentence is thus represented, its structure can be seen at a glance; but the sentence must be mentally analyzed before it can be put into this form. Nor can the work be fairly entitled "a complete view" of English grammar; the syntax is meagre, and the subjunctive mood is despatched in some half-dozen lines. Even if no more is required by the Standards than is here given, the work cannot rightly be called a complete grammar. It wants completeness and unity. At the same time it is calculated to be of service both to teachers and learners. A stanza of Tennyson given as an exercise is sadly marred by the misquotation of the first line, thus :-

Flow down, cold rivulet, to the cold sea.

Longmans' Modern Series:—The Illustrated Readers. Third and Fourth Books.—Arithmetic. Part V. Standard V.—Answers to Arithmetic. Parts I.—V.—Longmans' Modern Copy-books. No. VII. Third Standard; No. VIII. Third Standard; No. X. Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Standards.—The reading lessons in the "Illustrated Readers" consist of short stories, biographical sketches, portions of history, chapters of natural history, and pieces of poetry. Generally speaking, they have the prime merit of being decidedly readable, and at the same time are not wanting in instruction, though scarcely so good in a literary point of view as might be wished. The "Hints on Dress and Food" are more suitable for parents than children. The poetry

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is for the most part not remarkable for excellence. It is hard to discern the merit of the following stanza:—

Stanza: :—
Happy the man who tills the field,
Content with rustic labour;
Earth does to him he; fulness yield
Hap what may to his neighbour.
Well days, sound nights—oh! can there be
A life more ratioual and free?

The moral of this exquisite versification seems to be that every little boy should make it the object of his ambition to be an agricultural labourer. It would puzzle the Lord President of the Council to parse "Well days."

Bible Words and Phrases Explained and Illustrated. By Charles Michie, M.A. (Edinburgh, Macniven & Wallace.)—In this little work Mr. Michie has followed up the idea originally proposed in Dr. Trench's 'Select Glossary,' and afterwards improved on and enlarged in Eastwood and Wright's 'Bible Word-Book,' Davies's 'Bible English,' and Lumby's 'Glossary of Bible Words.' Every word or phrase the meaning of which has from any cause become obscure is here explained and illustrated by quotations from Bacon, Shakspeare, &c. Small as the book is, it yet has a more extensive range than any of its predecessors, for not only are obscure words or phrases in the Bible here explained, but a similar office is performed for the Scotch metrical version of the Psalms and for all technical terms peculiar to the sacred writings. Still further, Mr. Michie has greatly increased the value of his work by comparing the Authorized Version of 1611 with the new version, and by pointing out every important variation in rendering. The book will be found interesting and instructive, and of the greatest value to young students and teachers in Sunday schools. The etymologies appear to be correctly given, except in the case of "shamble," which is from the A.-S. scamel, a stool or bench.

Chambers's Etymological Dictionary of the English Language. Edited by Andrew Findlater, M.A., LL.D. (Chambers.)—We are pleased to see a new edition of this useful volume. Advantage has been taken of its reissue to subject the whole work to a careful and exhaustive revision, which must add largely to its efficiency and popularity. The publishers in their preface draw attention to the fact that full use has been made of the latest and best works on philology. Whether it is altogether fair to make so wholesale a use of Prof. Skeat's 'Etymological Dictionary' may be open to question, but, be that as it may, there can be no question that the purchaser reaps the benefit in having presented to him in a cheap and succinct form the results of the very latest researches into the history of the English language. The vocabulary has been greatly enlarged, and is brought fairly well up to date. Still some words—e.g., boycott—are missing which we should have expected to find. The definitions, except in a few isolated cases, as wicket, longstop, &c., appear to be correct. As a book of reference for the ordinary reader the volume will be found fully to justify the statements of the publishers in their prefatory note.

The latest contribution to Messrs. Longman's "Epochs of Modern History" is The Epoch of Reform, by Mr. Justin McCarthy, M.P. Whatever good work Mr. McCarthy may be capable of doing as a novelist, a political leader-writer, or a captain of the Home Rule party in the House of Commons, he can hardly be expected to be a successful writer of school-books, and this volume is not likely to find much favour with the class for which it is especially intended. The "general reader" ought, however, to be grateful for it. It is, for the twenty years of which it tells the story, something more than a careful epitome of the four large volumes in which Mr. McCarthy has lately written 'A History of our Own Times,' and it reveals considerable skill in grouping the main facts of English history and explaining the popular movements that produced them between 1830 and 1850. The antecedents and conditions

of the Reform Act of 1832 are, of course, described first and most fully; but the chapters devoted to this subject are followed by others in which an adequate account is given of the measures taken for abolishing West Indian slavery, regulating factory labour at home, reconstructing our poor laws, reforming municipalities, effecting various improvements in our criminal laws, establishing the principles of free trade, and of other important exploits of a period famous for the political and economical revolutions which were effected in it. Mr. McCarthy naturally pays special attention to the Irish tithe war and other passages in the history of his own island, and all that he says on these matters is said temperately and justly. His efforts to make a necessarily rather dry epitome interesting, however, are not always happy. The schoolboys who are set to learn modern English history from his volume will be rather confused than instructed by such passages as this summing up of George IV.'s character:—"He was treated by his father very much as Joe Willet in 'Barnaby Rudge' is treated by old John. Joe Willet, however, could run away and George could not; and Joe Willet had a noble nature and George certainly had not."

Classical Writers. Edited by J. R. Green.—
Demosthenes. By S. H. Butcher.—Tacitus. By A. J. Church, M.A., and W. J. Brodribb, M.A.
(Macmillan & Co.)—Mr. Butcher's excellent work is most pleasant reading. The criticism is admirable throughout. The work of Prof. Church and Mr. Brodribb, on the other hand, is a rather dry compilation. When the critic meets with an exceptionally brilliant book like Mr. Butcher's, he is too much pleased to ask further questions; but a volume like this of Messrs. Church and Brodribb provokes the inquiry whether this series which Mr. Green edits has any real raison d'être.

Livy. Books II. and III. Edited, with Introduction and Notes, by the Rev. H. M. Stephenson, M.A. (Macmillan & Co.)—Those who have used Mr. Stephenson's 'Select Epigrams of Martial' will expect to find these books of Livy very well edited, and their expectations will be amply realized. The commentary, though not so full as Mr. Capes's, is scholarly and business-like, not overladen with disquisitions on points of collateral information, nor too liberal in translation. The notes on the second book afford a pleasing contrast to those of Mr. Belcher's edition, which we noticed a few weeks back. It is a pity Mr. Stephenson should have introduced any etymology, as he is clearly not strong in this department, but fortunately he has not given many derivations. We are surprised to see the spelling "inchoato" (iii. 24, 10), and amused at the prodigious power an intrusive comma may wield, as illustrated by the multiplication of "Semo Sancus" into two deities. The volume is well printed, and is furnished with an index to the notes. The introduction comprises an abstract of Mommsen's account of the history of the period, and a neat little essay on the style of Livy (after Kuhnast). The whole forms an excellent school class book.

Primer to Tropical Reading Books: intended for Use in the West Indies and Elsewhere. By E. C. Phillips. (Griffith & Farran.)—There is little special adaptation for tropical children and no remarkable general merit in this primer. The directions for pronunciation are superfluous, as are also not a few of the illustrations, which in one or two instances are absurd, to say the least.

Gringoire: Comédie en Un Acte. Par T. de Banville. Edited with Notes by H. Bué.—Le Luthier de Crémone. By F. Coppée. Edited with Notes by A. Mariette. (Dulau & Co.)—These excellent editions of modern French pieces may be strongly recommended. Mr. Bué might have given with advantage a longer sketch of his author's career; Mr. Mariette's notes are some-

what too diffuse; still both these little books are welcome.

Les Femmes Savantes. Edited by G. E. Fasnacht. (Macmillan & Co.)—This is a very cheap edition, clearly printed, with short notes and a somewhat meagre introduction.

### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

In republishing Mr. Elizur Wright's Fables of La Fontaine, with Notes by Mr. J. W. M. Gibbs, Messrs. Bell & Sons have certainly put at the disposal of English readers (not, indeed, for the first time, but for the first time in a readthe first time, but for the first time in a readable form) a spirited adaptation of the greatest of medern fabulists. We use the word "adaptation" advisedly, for Mr. Wright's version can hardly be called, in any sense in which the term is now admitted, a translation. Mr. Wright, who is an American, executed this version more than forty years ago, chiefly for the reason, according to his own very candid avowal, that the possession of an illustrated edition of the original by one of his children threw upon his own "imperfect knowledge of French" the difficult business of constantly interpreting the story. Imperfect knowledge of terpreting the story. Imperfect knowledge of French is certainly a dubious qualification for translating work at once so intensely idiomatic and, in spite of its apparent simplicity, so far from easy to translate as La Fontaine's. But if Mr. Wright did not know much about French, he had a considerable knowledge of the method of the fabulist, and the result is that his version, like some other unfaithful ones, is at least true enough to the spirit of the original. The preenough to the spirit of the original. The pre-fatory memoir of criticism and biography is naturally not worth much, Mr. Wright evidently possessing neither the knowledge of the period nor the general appreciation of French literature necessary for the discharge of that part of his task. But this does not matter very much. Of his possession of the less easily attainable faculty nis possession of the less easily attainable faculty it is possible to give a very good test. His version became popular in America, where, as the initiated know, the extreme and absurd prudery which is almost extinct in England still flourishes in literary matters. That this delicacy could take offence at peakers the most resident desired. in literary matters. That this delicacy could take offence at perhaps the most stainless classic in all literature, especially after Mr. Wright had propitiated it by a very uncritical but very virtuous denunciation of the unlucky 'Contes,' is almost inconceivable. However, Mr. Wright was strongly pressed to expurgate the work which Fénelon approved, and, with groanings of spirit which do him credit, he consented. It is personally a matter of some amusement to us to find that the blameless 'La Lice et sa Compagne,' which we happen to have given in English in the Athenœum a few weeks ago, was one of the doomed fables. In the place of these, however, Mr. Wright substituted some original pieces of his own, one of which will instance his command of the style very fairly :-

e style very fairly:—
A dog and cat, messmates for life,
Were often failing into strife,
Which came to scratching, growls, and snaps,
And spitting in the face, perhaps.
A neighbour dog once chanced to call
Just at the outset of their brawl;
And thinking Tray was cross and cruel
To snarl so sharp at Mrs. Mew-well,
Growl'd rather roughly in his car.
"And who are you, to interfere?"
Exclaimed the cat, while in his face she flew,
And, as was wise, he suddenly withdrew.
It seems in suite of all his snarling.

It seems, in spite of all his snarling, And hers, that Tray was still her darling.

It must be left to the extreme delicacy of America to decide whether such a proceeding as spitting in the face ought to be mentioned. But it will probably be admitted that, while the phrase might be improved in a few points, the right fable manner is well hit here. As for the notes, they are well intentioned. A few such things as this to "Atrides"—"Atreus, or Atrides, king of Mycense and grandfather of Agamemnon"—forbid us to say more. Let us hope that the popular idea that nobody reads notes is correct.

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THE last number of the Revue de l'Histoire des Religions, edited by M. Maurice Vernes, contains an article by M. Guyard with the title of Bulletin Critique de la Religion Assyro-Babylonienne: La Question Suméro-Accadienne, Having given a clear account of the discovery by Dr. Haupt that there are even two distinct dialects in the Assyrian tablets, viz., the one Accadian and the other Sumerian, he proceeds to explain the system of M. Halévy, who de-clares that the doubtful signs contain only an earlier hieratic writing of Assyrian, and not a new language which is not Semitic. M. Guyard, who belonged formerly to the Accadian school, is now converted to M. Halévy's views. school, is now converted to M. Halévy's views. He attacks the Accadian system from the grammatical point of view. Historians will be perplexed at learning from M. Guyard's romarkable article that the names of Accadian kings read formerly Hammurabi and Burnaburias have to be read now, according to a later discovery by Mr. Pinches, Kimtu-rapastu and Kidin-bel-matati, the latter names being pure Assyrian. M. Guyard finishes his essay the following sentences: "Dans ce bulletin, qui devait être consacré à exposer la religion suméroaccadienne, il se trouve que nous n'avons pas encore prononcé même le nom de religion. Nos lecteurs nous en excuserons, et pour cause : la religion suméro-accadienne n'existe pas. Si nos lecteurs tombent, par exemple, sur 'L'Histoire Comparée des Anciennes Religions' de M. C. P. Tiele, chap. ii., 'Religion des Soumirs et des Accads,' ils verront figurer des dieux comme Accads,' ils verront figurer des dieux comme Moulge, Silik-moulou-chi. Qu'ils se gardent bien d'y voir autre chose que l'épellation des signes idéographiques à l'aide desquels les Assyriens écrivaient parfois les noms de Bel et de Marduk." Such differences of opinion amongst Assyriologists are not encouraging to investigators of ancient history.

MESSRS. ROUTLEDGE send us Henry Wads worth Longfellow, a biographical sketch that will please the poet's admirers, by Mr. F. H. Underwood.—Signor Carlo Placci has reprinted from the Rassegna Nazionale a graceful notice of

WE have lying on our table The St. Andrews University Calendar (Blackwood & Sons), which contains, among other things, the examination papers set for the LLA certificate; A Catalogue of Periodical Literature, compiled by Mr. Quaritch and published by that notable bookseller; A Catalogue of the Lending Department of the Rochdale Free Library (Rochdale, Haworth), which Mr. Hanson has put together with laudable diligence; and The Parallel New Testament, the translation of 1611 and the revised version of 1881, handsomely printed in parallel columns by the Oxford University Press. - Messrs. Gardiner send us the Royal Blue Book, the best of the Court guides.

WE have on our table William Lloyd Garrison and his Times, by O. Johnson (Low),—The Constitutional and Political History of the United States, by Dr. H. von Holst (Trübner), -History of Modern Italy, by J. D. Morell (Longmans), -P. Vergili Maronis Aeneidos, Libri II. et III., edited by E. W. Howson (Macmillan), -The Pupil's Geography, by G. F. H. Sykes (Relfe Brothers),
—Lessons on Form, by R. P. Wright (Longmans),
—Means for Learning to Reckon Certainly and Easily, translated by J. Kaines (Reeves & Turner),—Easy Lessons in Chemistry, by G. N. Stoker (Stewart),—Report of the Comptroller of the Currency of the United States (Washington, Government Printing Office),—A Complete Guide to the Game of Chess, by A Complete Guide to the Game of Chess, by H. F. L. Meyer (Griffith & Farran),—Chess Practice, by H. E. Bird (Low),—The Technics of Violin Playing, by K. Courvoisier (Reeves),— The Tragedy of Julius Cæsar, by A. P. Paton Longmans),—On the Platonism of Wordsworth, by J. H. Shorthouse (Birmingham, Cornish),— Talks about the Laws we Live Under, by C. M. Yonge (Smith), - A Short History of the English

Parliament, by A. Bisset (Williams & Norgate), -The Queen's Speeches in Parliament, compiled by F. S. Ensor (Allen & Co.),—Our Little Life (Longmans), - A Gathered Sheaf of Golden Grain, . Allson (Sonnenschein & Allen),-The Rival Heirs, by the Rev. A. D. Crake (Rivingtons), — The Emperor, by G. Ebers, 2 vols. (Trübner),—On Board a Union Steamer, by Capt. S. P. Oliver (Allen & Co.),—and Capturing a Locomotive, by Rev. W. Pittenger (Lippincott).

### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

### ENGLISH.

Theology.

Gwatkin's (H. M.) Studies in Arianism, 8vo. 10/6 cl.
Hessey's (F.) A Few Parochial Sermons preached at St.
Barnabas's Church, Kensington, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.
Houghton's (C. A.) Plea for the Use of the Means of Grace,
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cr. 8vo. 2/cl.
Latin Prayer Book of Charles II., with reprint of the Catechism, with Collation, &c., by C. and W. W. Marshall, 8vo. 10/6 cl. pard's (Rev. A. N.) Plain Sermons preached in Town and

Obbard's (Rev. A. A.) Fishin berinding presented in John Country, cr. 5vo. 5/ cl.

Yr Efengyl yn ol Sant Matthew gan Henry T. Edwards
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Crawley's (C.) Law of Life Insurance, 8vo. 12/6 cl.

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Ottoman Poems, trans. Into English Verse in the Original Forms, with Introduction, &c., by E. J. W. Gibb, 21/cl. Symonds's (J. A.) Animi Figura, 12mo. 5/cl.

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History and Biography.

Bancroft's (G.) History of the Formation of the Constitution of the United States of America, 2 vols. 8vo. 24/cl.

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Dale's (A. W. W.) The Synod of Elvira and Christian Life in the Fourth Century, an Historical Essay, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.

Gray, by E. W. Gosse, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl. (English Men of Letters.)

Lacordaire (H. D.), a Biographical Sketch, by W. L. S. Lear, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.

Lacordaire (H. D.), a Biographical Sketch, by H. A. S. S. C., 8vo. 1/6 cl.

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Philology.

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### FOREIGN.

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Sébillot (P.): Traditions et Superstitions Populaires de la
Haute-Bretagne, 2 vols. 15fr.

#### NOTES FROM OXFORD.

THERE is reason to hope that the rejection of the Lincoln College statutes will not involve the loss of the Professorship of Classical Archæology which the college had undertaken to endow, but that some arrangement will be made, with the consent of the Visitor, by which the necessary funds will be set apart for this purpose. At the same time, nearly 500l. has been subscribed, chiefly by residents in Oxford, towards a collection of casts, and the Curators of the University Galleries have kindly placed the lower gallery at the disposal of the committee which has charge of the scheme. General Pitt-Rivers's offer to present his valuable anthropological collection to the University is now formally before us, and there seems little reason to doubt that it will be warmly accepted. Should this prove to be the case, provision will be made for its reception by building an annex to the University Museum, at a probable cost, including fittings, of about 8,000l. We may hope, too, that when this is done room may be found in the same neighbourhood for the similar collections now in the Ashmolean. The removal of these from their present abode would leave room. there for a more effective display of our Greek and Roman antiquities than has been possible hitherto, and would enable us to bring into view more of our scattered and hidden treasures.

To the new number of the Journal of the Hellenic Society Mr. W. Ramsay contributes an interesting account of his recent explorations in Phrygia. Whether he will be able to continue these depends on the answer given to the appeal which the Council of the Hellenic Society has put forward on his behalf. The Oxford college which has offered to elect him to an Extraordinary Fellowship has set a good example, and it would be a thousand pities if its offer were rendered nugatory by the impossibility of raising so comparatively small a sum as 500l.

Thanks to the liberality of Magdalen College, we are to have the new Professorship of Physiclogy at once. It is sorely needed, and the pro-fessor, whoever he may be, will find no lack of work that needs to be done. The Electoral Board consists of the Visitor and President of Magdalen College, the Linacre Professor of Anatomy, the Regius Professor of Medicine, the Presidents of the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, and Sir James Paget.

is understood that an honorary degree of D.C.L. was voted to Dr. Schliemann, who has recently presented the University with a small but valuable collection of antiquities, Dr. Schliemann, however, was unable to reach

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England in time to receive it, and the degree therefore stands over till next year.

A decree was passed in Convocation on Thursday sanctioning the affiliation to the University of the new college at Nottingham. University of the new college at Nothing.

This is the second instance in which the provisions of the affiliation statute, passed three have come into force. The first inyears ago, have come into force. The first in-stitution to take advantage of them was St. David's College at Lampeter, in Wales. P.

### TENNYSON'S " NEW " SONG.

Your reference to the Poet Laureate's "new song" and the conspicuous absence of any reference to "our forgotten kinsmen on the other side of the Atlantic" leads me to call attention to the original appearance of the song in the Examiner in 1852, when it was issued under the nom de plume "Merlin." As then published the poem contains the following verses :-

digantic daughter of the West,
We drink to thee across the flood,
We know thee and we love thee best,
For art thou not of British blood?
Should war's mad blast again be blown,
Permit not thou the tyrant powers
To fight thy mother here alone,
But let thy broadsides roar with ours.
God the tyrant's cause confound! Hands all round!
God the tyrant's cause confound!
To our dear kinsmen of the West, my friends,
And the great name of England, round and round!

And the great name of England, round and round!

O rise, our strong Atlantic sons,
When war against our freedom springs!
O speak to Europe through your guns,
They cas be understood by kings.
You must not mix our Queen with those
That wish to keep their people fools;
Our freedom's foemen are her foes,
She comprehends the race she rules.

God the tyrant's cause confound!
To our dear kinsmen in the West, my friends,
And the great name of England, round and round!

Perhaps the exigencies of musical adaptation demanded the exclusion of these verses; but most people, I imagine, would like to see them restored to the "new" version.

WILLIAM WILSON.

THE EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENTS (SCOTLAND) BILL. Edinburgh, June 9, 1882.

It is seldom that in the discussion of any

public question we have essential facts so distorted and public men so misrepresented as in the article of Dr. Donaldson on the Educational Endowments (Scotland) Bill in the Athenœum of last week. That any one occupying the place of a late Commissioner should have rendered himself liable to such a grave impeachment is certainly to be regretted.

Dr. Donaldson, after undertaking to "sketch the history of what has taken place" in regard to the question of educational endowments in Scotland, is careful not to inform your readers that the present agitation owes its origin to an attack upon Heriot's Hospital and its system of free education by Sir Alexander Grant, Principal of Edinburgh University, upwards of twelve years ago. He further omits to state that the Principal appeared before the Commission of 1878, asking that the "wants of the University" should be provided for by the Heriot Trust before the claims of the Watt Institution for Technical and Secondary Education should be considered; and that the teachers under Dr. Donald-son moderately asked that 1,000l. per annum should be given to the High School. Dr. Donaldson informs your readers that a new Commission is required to deal with those institutions which refused to reform themselves, leaving it to be inferred that those which were anxious to reform themselves were not to be subjected to the compulsory action of the Commission. This is not so; the Heriot's foundation—the primary object of attack—has by the reforming tendency of its governors been distinguished as the initiator of an extensive system of free education since

Under the Act of 1868 the governors applied Under the Act of 1868 the governors applied for a provisional order, which was refused be-

cause it was too liberal and extensive in its rovisions. They again applied for a provisional order under the Act of 1878, which after being amended was approved of by the Government. Dr. Donaldson and his co-Commissioners then interposed and objected to its being passed unless the present governing body were deposed. This extraordinary proceeding was not because of any charge of maladministration or mis-management, but because the Town Council, constituting three-fourths of the governing body, were directly and popularly elected by the citizens. This remarkable, and I submit unconstitutional, proposal was insisted upon because at the municipal elections the electors were said to use their influence to return to the Town Council candidates pledged to stand by the interests of the public and resist the assaults of those who sought to appropriate the funds of the trust for the aggrandizement of the University. "Some cry, however, had to be got up" to justify this outrage upon the rights and liberties of the people. Hence the dismissal of certain members from the Town Council upon a subject foreign to that of education was urged as a reason for denuding the citizens of their rights to elect the governors of the Hospital. Notwithstanding that a certain document was put in in evidence which disproved the allegation, this document Dr. Donaldson and his co-Commissioners suppressed in their minutes of evidence, for reasons best known to themselves.

Dr. Donaldson, again, states that the Bill "is acceptable to the great majority of the Scotch people," and that "the only really opposing body is the governors of Heriot's Hospital in Edinburgh." It is astounding that he should have penned and put in circulation a twofold statement so notoriously at variance with the statement so notoriously at variance with the facts of the case. I am not aware that a public meeting has been held in favour of the Bill, while the opposition has been general, open, and persistent; moreover, with one exception I know of no newspaper—Whig, Radical, or Conservative—that approves of those provisions by which the principles of direct popular representations are resulted as a provision of the conservative of the principles of direct popular representations are resulted as a provision of the conservative of ntation are assailed, and which aim at the partial disfranchisement of every burgh constituency in Scotland where educational and charitable foundations are wholly or partly administered by Town Councils.

While your correspondent writes of Scotland being in favour of the Bill can he possibly be ignorant of the opposition given to its confiscatory clauses in Dumfriesshire, and that the Convention of Royal and Parliamentary Burghs in Scotland sent a deputation to London, petitioning against the Bill of last session, and is now again unanimously arrayed against it? Is it possible that he is ignorant of the fact that the National Trades Congress have also condemned by resolution the obnoxious clauses of the Bill; that seven Scotch members have, in the interests of the poor and in vindication of direct and popular representation, placed blocks and amendments against its second reading; and that the pro-spect of the Liberal candidate for Haddington-shire seems doomed unless he shall pledge him-

self to oppose the present Government Bill?

When Dr. Donaldson wrote that the governors of Heriot's Hospital alone were opposed to the easure was he aware that the governors of Hutcheson's Hospital in Glasgow occupied the same attitude of hostility to the Bill; that there was not a ward in the city of Edinburgh but had pronounced against the attempt to depose the governors and disfranchise the citizens of the power of election now enjoyed; and that public meetings, attended by thousands of the inhabitants, had again and again been held, where resolutions were passed condemning in the strongest terms the university clique, who constitute almost exclusively the supporters of the present Government measure? It is simply inconceivable that Dr. Donaldson can be ignorant

Defence Committee, and the United Liberal Association of Edinburgh continue to maintain against the passing of the Bill. I submit that, in view of such overwhelming evidence to the contrary, the statement of Dr. Donaldson reveals him to be singularly defective in memory or in some other essential element of character no less necessary to one occupying his position.

The doctor further affirms that "there is nothing in which the last Commission was so strict as in preserving for the poor every farthing that was bequeathed to them." It is marvellous that he should have hazarded this statement in view of such painful and palpable evidence to the contrary. Is it not a fact that while the Spier Trust was established by its founder for the maintenance and education of a number of boys "belonging to the parish of Beith, children of the poor or labouring classes, the children of shopkeepers and of all persons trading on capital being expressly excluded," Dr. Donaldson and his co-Commissioners—one of their appropriate that the property of their appropriate that the property of their appropriate that the property of their appropriate that the their appropriate that their appropriate that the their appr Dr. Donaldson and his co-Commissioners—one of their number, Mr. Ramsay, being witness—have appropriated these funds "for behoof of a class of the population which is expressly excluded from participating therein"? Again, is it not equally true Mr. Ramsay, to his credit, again recorded his dissent from the action of Dr. Donaldson and his fellow Commissioners in regard to the Wallace Hall Academy, Closeburn. Dumfriesshire, because of their arbiin regard to the Wallace Hall Academy, Close-burn, Dumfriesshire, because of their arbi-trary disregard of the legal rights of the bene-ficiaries? We have in this case one of the grossest illustrations of the utter disregard of the founder's intentions and of injustice towards the poor that, with the exception of the Fettes charitable trust, Edinburgh, has been perpetrated in modern times. The founder, Mr. Wallace, an advocate of free education and with an ardent love for his native parish of Closeburn, founded the Wallace Hall Academy for the express purpose of pro-Hall Academy for the express purpose of pro-viding "the children of his native parish with a better education, secondary and elementary, than they were otherwise likely to receive," and "expressly provided that it should be irec. So careful was he to preserve free education and to protect the parishioners from fees or charges of any kind being imposed, that he expressly stipulated in his will "that if the schoolmaster stipulated in his will "that if the schoolmaster shall demand or exact any fee or reward, directly or indirectly, for teaching any of the children within the said parish, other than what the parents may of their own good will think fit to give as said is, then he shall ipso facto lose and amit his office and whole emoluments thereof, and shall be removed either by sentence of the Pres-bytery or by any civil court." Notwithstanding these most distinct and direct terms in the deed of mortification, Dr. Donaldson and his fellow Commissioners largely appropriated the lands and revenues of the Wallace Hall Trust for boarders and bursaries, and imposed fees upon two-thirds of the children of the parishioners, amounting in some cases to eightpence a week per pupil, while they had it stated in evidence that many of the parents of those children were farm servants and labourers in receipt of wages averaging only fourteen shillings per week. So keenly did the inhabitants of Closeburn feel the injustice and wrong being perpetrated upon them that they presented a petition to the Commission signed by 603 inhabitants of the parish, which petition was by them heartlessly disregarded. It is for Dr. Donaldson to reconcile these facts with his statement that "there is nothing in which the last Commission was so strict as in

preserving for the poor every farthing that was bequeathed to them."

Dr. Donaldson pleads for the deposition of the governors of Heriot's Hospital because "the the governors of Heriot's Hospital because "the body is unwieldy, their number being above fifty." This is a mere "cry" got up, seeing there is not a shadow of evidence to justify the allegation. Certainly it comports strangely with the action of Parliament, which so recently found it expedient to increase the governing body of

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Hutcheson's Hospital from sixty to seventy-two. How, it would be interesting to know, does Dr. Donaldson explain this?

The doctor says that the Town Council was not a representative body when George Heriot lived, that it is no longer an educational body, and that it has been deprived of the management of the University. We have here a threefold statement University.

inaccurate in every particular.

Dr. Donaldson, while charging the governors of Heriot's Hospital with contending, not for principle, but for patronage, vainly strives to transfer the controversy with the Government from the citizens of Edinburgh to the governors of Heriot's Hospital. George Heriot two and a half centuries ago appointed the Town Council and city ministers to be the governing body "in perpetuity" and "for ever," and these gentlement of the council and city ministers to be the governing body "in perpetuity" and "for ever," and these gentlements are the council or the council of perpetuity" and "for ever," and these gentle-men on taking office became bound to protect the interests of their constituents, and to hand down unimpaired the trust to future generations. The governors, it will thus be seen, have no choice other than to maintain an attitude of hostility to the present Government measure, unless they are to become recreant and disloyal to their trust. It is because the advocates of spoliation have found that the governors are neither to be bullied nor bribed into surrender that they find it necessary to demand their de-position and the disfranchisement of the citizens in their election. It is this proposal, contained in the three successive editions of the Bill, that has exasperated the citizens, and no wonder. It is a proposal which the late Conservative Government of Lord Beaconsfield refused to entertain. and the citizens feel naturally indignant that under the Liberal Government of Mr. Gladstone -which they did so much to return to power-a Bill should, session after session, be introduced of so confiscatory and reactionary a character. It is a Bill which strikes at a fundamental principle of public liberty, and by denuding the electors of the right of direct election makes an ill-concealed attack upon the principles of direct popular representation and local self-government.

This reactionary proposal is regarded by the Scottish people as one of the most hateful forms of political injustice, repugnant to the spirit of modern legislation, and directly at variance with the platform of the present Liberal administraand the speeches of Mr. Gladstone during his Mid-Lothian campaign.

Your correspondent says if the present Bill be carried "the result will be peace" in the community. The man who thus writes in view of the present feeling betrays an ignorance of the antecedents of the citizens of Edinburgh, and is doing Government a grievous wrong. That man is neither the friend of Liberalism nor of the existing administration who misrepresents public opinion on a subject where the rights and liberties of the people are so intimately involved. Dr. Donaldson, after misrepresenting the terms

of the law agent's appointment and income from the trust, proceeds to deal with the treasurer. He charges him with having stirred up the people to oppose the policy of confiscation, while by his political influence he is represented as having Town Councillors and ward meetings at his mercy. I have been too long familiar with the slanders and imputations incident to public and political life to be thus diverted from my purpose in the defence of public rights; only I may say this is no new device of the enemy. So long as our honoured ex-member (Mr. Duncan McLaren) was in the forefront, his patriotism, public spirit, and loyalty to his constituency signalled him out for the shafts of misrepresentation continuously hurled at him by the university clique, who persistently charged him with stirring up the people and with being the source of all their difficulty. It is now, however, expedient that these shafts be directed against some one else. Dr. Donaldson, in the purity and generosity of his mind, finds a motive for the action of the treasurer in his opposition to the present Bill. He intimates that "people

say" the passing of the Bill might "put an end to the present office of treasurer." We have here the imputation of a motive truly worthy of the Rector of the High School of Edinburgh and the Professor of Humanity in the College of Aberdeen, which I believe his illustrious patron Lord Rosebery, "minister for Scotland," will not fail to appreciate. No one knows better than Dr. Donaldson that from the beginning of the attack upon Heriot's Hospital the present treasurer was in the front line of the opposition, and that a change in his official position was characterized by no change of policy. It would have been passing strange if one who had been a defender of the trust while a governor should have become less loyal and faithful to the public interest after being specially appointed to watch over and protect the revenues of the trust from the incursions of covetous educationists or self-accused "conspirators." Were I so far to forget myself as to indicate what "people say" about the motives which have actuated Dr. Donaldson and some of his more important confederates in connexion with the Educational Endowments (Scotland) Bill, the statement would neither redound to their credit nor to that of the literary and political class to which they belong. DAVID LEWIS.

SHELLEY'S HOUSE AT SAN TERENZIO.

Villa Maccarani, San Terenzio, June, 1882. It is only within the last few days that my attention has been called to a correspondence in your columns with regard to Shelley's house, and having lived on the spot for the last few years, I may, perhaps, be able to throw a little more light on the subject.

The road from Lerici to San Terenzio, after being discussed for many years, was begun last summer. It was almost immediately stopped, however, by order of the Genio (military engineers), who refused to allow it to be made unless it were mined in four places, that it might the more easily be destroyed if necessary in time of As the construction of these mines entailed a large expenditure, it seemed likely that the road would not be finished. However, I now hear that the money is forthcoming, and that the work is to be recommenced this month.

La Vallata is about two-thirds of the way from Lerici to San Terenzio, and it is here that the property of the Marchese Maccarani begins, his woods covering a small hill or spur of land

jutting out into the sea.

At the bottom of the woods a wall divides them from the shore, and built in the wall is Shelley's house. The question as to whether the road shall pass within or without this wall is still being discussed; the Marchese Maccarani wishing it to pass outside, the commune, to save money, inside. In either case Shelley's house would be entirely spoilt, for it must be remembered that, the road once made, houses would be quickly built along it, and the entire character and appearance of the place be changed.

The way to obviate this would be to carry the road over the hill, at the back of the Maccarani estate, and down again to San Terenzio, following, more or less, the direction of the present mule-path. This would naturally cost rather more, but not so much as might be supposed, for this reason: if the road is carried along the shore an expensive sea-wall will be necessary, and if through the Maccarani woods the Marchese will require a large sum for the ground, as he considers, and very justly, that it would greatly spoil the property. Could, therefore, the money be raised, I have no doubt the commune of Lerici would carry the road over the hill, and Shelley's house would be left in its present state.

With regard to the much disputed question of the spelling of San Terenzio, I may remark that the above is correct, the place taking its name from a fugitive Bishop Terenzio who landed here and made his way into the mountains.

This, at least, is the popular story. I have made inquiries among some of the oldest of the villagers, but can find none who remember the name being spelt in any other way, though it is true the Post Office has adopted San Terenzo, without the i, probably to save space on its stamper.

Shelley's house is one of the two villas belonging to the Marchese Maccarani. The larger, from which I write, is called Villa Maccarani; the other still goes by the name of Casa Magni, but the inhabitants of San Terenzio invariably call it "La Casa del Colonello," for it is always associated in their minds with the late Col. Cross, who lived here every summer for thirty years; and I may here remark, en passant, that the initials L. G. found by Mr. Greene were cut by Capt. L. G. Cross, and have nothing to do with Shelley or Byron. The tree on which the former carved his name was cut down some years ago. Before closing, perhaps I may be allowed to state that the "lovely olive wood," mentioned by Mr. Cesaresco as at the back of the Casa Magni, is composed entirely of evergreen oaks—a fact which I should not have called attention to but that olive woods are plentiful in this neighbourhood, while it would be hard to find another wood like that of Marigola.

ARTHUR L. ENTHOVEN.

SALES.

THE sale of a portion of the library of the late Rev. Canon Lysons took place at the rooms of Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge on Wednesday, the 31st ult., and produced 1,014l. 3s. 6d. Amongst other articles, the author's copies of Lysons's Environs of London and Magna Bri-Lysons's Environs of London and Magna Britannia sold for 17l.; Roman Antiquities at Woodchester, 12l. 5s.; Reliquiæ Britannico-Romanæ, 3ll. Britton's Architectural and Cathedral Antiquities, 25l. 10s. Chalmers's Caledonia, 8l. Vecellio's Designs for Lace-work, 15l. Bateman's Orchidaceæ of Mexico, 24l. 10s. Froissart's Chronicles, printed by Pynson, in the control of the control 15t. Bateman's Orchidaceæ of Mexico, 24t. 10s. Froissart's Chronicles, printed by Pynson, slightly imperfect, 40t. Gould's Birds of New Guinea, 18t. Roberts's Holy Land, 20t. Turner's Liber Studiorum, 41t. Wilkins's Concilia, 25t. 10s. A Collection of Views in Kent, 37t. Breviarium Romanum, manuscript, 5t. 12s. Horæ B. Mariae Chronic and Chronic Mexicological 14t. 17a 6d. Virginis, manuscript with miniatures, 14l. 17s. 6d. Lee Priory Publications, 13t. 10s. Curtis's British Entomology, 15t. Dickens's Sketches of Young Ladies, Couples, and Gentlemen, 5t. 10s. Ruskin's Seven Lamps of Architecture, 5l. 10s. Ruskin's Seven Lamps of Ar5l. 2s. 6d. Musée Français, 18l. 10s.

The sale of the fourth portion of the library of M. A. Firmin Didot began in Paris on Monday. The following account deals with the works of most value sold on the first day of the sale :-Psautier, Cantiques, &c., manuscript on vellum, executed in France in the second quarter of the fourteenth century for Bonne de Luxembourg, with miniatures, &c., binding of the seventeenth century, 10,000 fr. Biblia Sacra, manuscript on vellum, of the second half of the thirteenth century, executed in France, miniatures, binding of the sixteenth century, 1,500 fr. Psalterium, Cantica, &c., manuscript on vellum, of the same epoch as the preceding, executed in France, miniatures, 3,000 fr. Evangeliarium (in Greek), manuscript of the tenth or early eleventh century, four miniatures, 1,700 fr.; Evangeliarium, manuscript, of the same date, two miniatures, 1,450 fr. Térence, folio, bound by Bauzonnet, 800 fr. F. Térence, folio, bound by Bauzonnet, 800 fr. F. Colonna, Hypnerotomachie, ou Discours du Songe de Poliphile, 850 fr. Voyage du Roi Henri IV. à Metz, par Abraham Fabert, Sieur de Moulins, échevin of Metz, and a celebrated printer in that city, edition of 1610, with coloured plates, 790 fr. Fêtes de Versailles, May, 1664, 1,950 fr. Pompa Funebris (of Prince Charles III. of Lorraine), 800 fr.

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A MANUSCRIPT OF MARCO POLO.\*

In the catalogue of known MSS. of Marco Now the character of the was given in the first edition (1871) of my 'Marco Polo,' but not repeated in the second (1875), one MS. was entered as existing at Stockholm, from a mention of it in Viscount Santarem's 'Hist. de la Cosmographie,' but no particulars regarding it were attainable, nor even an indication of the language in which

We now learn from the short preface to the present publication that the Royal Library at Stockholm possesses two MSS. of Marco Polo. In what language the other is we still are ignorant, but this, which is identified as the one mentioned in Santarem's work by its having appended to it a small mappe-monde, is in ench.

We are indebted to the illustrious explorer of the North-East Passage, Baron Nordenskiöld, for the publication of the present fac-simile, which has been admirably executed by photolithography at the lithographic institution of the Swedish general staff. The paper is beautiful, the rubrics of the chapters are reproduced in red, and nothing of the kind could be more attractive or satisfactory. We may have some doubts if the work was worthy of so much labour and expense; but that is hardly a matter for

the public to complain of. An interesting letter from M. Leopold Delisle, of the Institute, the present Director of the National Library at Paris, forms the material part of the preface. M. Delisle, having had, at Stockholm in 1880, an opportunity of examining the MS., was able to identify it as having formed a part of the collection of books made by Charles V. of France in one of the towers of the Louvre. A catalogue of this collection on parchment, written by Gilles Malet, its first keeper, is still in existence, and is exhibited in the middle of the Galerie Mazarine. This catalogue middle of the Galerie Mazarine. This catalogue shows that the library, apparently in the early years of Charles's reign (1364-1386), contained five copies of Marco Polo's narrative. In 1411, when certain persons were deputed to report on the state of the royal library, there were only three copies of Marco Polo remaining. One of these, No. 317 in the catalogue of this report, is described as "non enlumine, escript en françois, de lettre de forme, commençant ou He foillet vocata moult grant, et ou derrenier ilee dist il....." This description identifies the ilec dist il ....." MS. in question with that which Baron Nordenskiöld has reproduced. For in the Stockholm book the second leaf begins with "Bocata [for Bocara, i.e., Bokhara] moult grant et noble," and the last leaf begins with "iluec dist qu'il attendiroit Argon." On this M. Delisle remarks that it requires no great acquaintance with the habits of the old transcribers to be sure that they never would make two copies of a work so as to

correspond thus exactly, page by page to the end.

M. Delisle adds some other interesting details. The MS. in question is still noted as existing in the royal library in 1413 and in 1424, but after that it disappears; and it is supposed to have passed into the hands of the Duke of Bedford, with many other volumes, eventually dispersed in France and England. Some time in the sixteenth century, however, it is shown by an inscript at the end to have belonged to Symon du Solier, dwelling at Honfleur; and another at the foot of the first page gives the name of "Pa. Petavius." M. Delisle recalls that the library of this scholar was purchased by Queen Chris-tina, and though the mass of her MSS. passed into the Vatican, a part, including this work, must have gone to Stockholm.+ The traced history of the book thus has confirmed the judg-

\* 'Le Livre de Marco Polo. Fac-simile d'un Manuscrit du XIVe Siècle conservé à la Bibliothèque Royale de Stockholm,' Stockholm, 1882.

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Stockholm, 1882.

† Paul Petau, born at Orleans 1538, died at Paris 1614, a
great collector and antiquary, great-uncle of the more cele-brated (Jesuit) Denis Petau (Dionysius Petavius). His
motto was, "Cum nova tot querant, nil nisi prisca Pero.
After the death of his son, who inherited his tastes, his
library was bought by Queen Christins.

ment which had already been formed from the handwriting, that it is not of later date than about the middle of the fourteenth century.

Nothing is said in the preface as to the value or special character of the text contained in the MS., and yet it would have been desirable to determine this before proceeding to reproduce it. Such a determination would be rendered easy, to any one sufficiently interested in the subject, to any one sufficiently interested in the subject, by reading and applying the particulars given in my introductory notices to Marco Polo (see ch. ix. "Marco Polo's Book and the Language in which it was first Written," and ch. x. "Various Types of the Text of Marco Polo's Book"). Those chapters contain the condensed result of a great chall of his way and one is a little (though only a subject to the property of deal of labour, and one is a little (though only a little) surprised to find that just when they could have been usefully applied they have been en-tirely neglected. Nothing of moment could be expected from a new MS. unless it were marked by exceptional accuracy and intelligence or belonged to a type unknown before. But it is easy to show that neither description applies to the present MS.

A little explanation is needful before showing how this text is to be classified. All the known texts of Marco Polo's book fall under four types:

I. That oldest and roughest, which may be taken as a transcript of the original dictation in the prison of Genoa, and which is represented by the prison of Genoa, and which is represented by the unique MS. of the Paris Library (Fr. 1116), referred to in my editions as the "Geographic Text" (because published by the Société de Géographie in 1824). II. The type of the French MSS. on which Pauthier's edition of 1865 was based, and which seems traceable (to speak briefly) to a MS., much

modified and refined from the preceding, which

modified and refined from the preceding, which Marco Polo presented to the French knight Thibault de Cepoy at Venice in 1306.

III. The type of Friar Pipino's Latin redaction, c. 1315-1320.

IV. The very peculiar type prepared for publication by G. Battista Ramusio, and published (1559) two years after his death in the second volume of the 'Navigationi e Viaggi.'

With the last two we have no concern at present, but I may remark that the only important light that we could reasonably hope for from the mere discovery of a new codex would

from the mere discovery of a new codex would come from the discovery of the original text of Ramusio's publication.

A very little examination shows Baron Nor-denskiold's MS. to belong to Type II. In a note to the introduction to Marco Polo

(first ed. p. cxviii; second ed. p. 91) are given a few examples of minor circumstances which appear only in this type of MS. Thus (e.g.), in relating how Kublai Kaan gave the Venetians his messages to the sovereigns of Europe, MSS. of this type alone mention the King of England. The Stockholm MS. has this (ch. xviii.):—"si lour enchargai messaiges au Pape. au roy de france. au roy dingleterre......" Again, it is Again, it is said in the chapter on Malabar, in MSS. of this type, that the ships which went thence with cargoes for Alexandria were but one-tenth of those which went to the far East—a passage not found in the older text. This we have in the Stockholm MS. (ch. clxxiv.):—"Mais pour une nef q' ua de ci en occident en uont. x. uers le leuant. cest adire en oriant."

Again, it is stated (u.s.) that "this class of

MSS. contains many erroneous readings of names, either adopting the worse of two forms names, either adopting the worse of two forms occurring in the Geographic Text, or originating blunders of its own. Thus the MSS. of this type have elected the erroneous readings [1] Bolgara, [2] Cogatra, [3] Chiato, [4] Cabanant, &c., instead of the correcter Bolgana, Cocacin, Quiacatu, Cobinan, where the G. T. presents both?

Now the Stockholm MS. has [1, ch. xvii.] rogalra and rolgara, [2, ch. xvii.] Cogatra, [3, ch. xviii.] Chyato, [4, ch. xxxviii.] Cabanant.

Again, it is stated: "The MSS. of this type read [1] Esanar for the correct Etzina; [2] Chas-

cun for Casvin; [3] Achalet for Achalec; [4] Sardansu for Sindafu; [5] Kayteu, Kayton, and Sarcon for Zaiton or Caiton; [6] Soucat for Locae; [7] Falce for Ferlec, and so on, the worse instead of the better. They make.....the giraffes of Africa into girofles, or cloves," &c.

Now the Stockholm MS. has [1, ch. lxii.]
Esanar; [2, ch. xxxii.] Chasium or Chasuim; [3, cxii.] Achalet; [4, ch. cxiii.] Sardanfu and dardanfu; [5, ch. clii.] Kayteu, Caiton, Caton, and Sarcon; [6, ch. clx., clxi.] soucat and loncat; [7, ch. clxii.] fallet and fellet; and in ch. cov. we have, "Mais ils ont girofles essez," where the Geog. Text reads, "Mes le girafe i naisent bien."

It seems to be proved by what has been quoted that the Stockholm MS. must belong to what I call Type II., and I gather that it has been produced by partial abridgment from one of the earlier MSS. of the type in question.

As a specimen of the abridgment that the

As a specimen of the abridgment that the book has undergone, I may cite the passage in which Polo is speaking of Sakyamuni, in connexion with Adam's Peak in Ceylon. I put three texts for comparison: first the old Geographic Text, then Pauthier's text formed from three codices in the Paris Library, and lastly the Steakhelm text. the Stockholm text.

the Stockholm text.

1.—Geographic Text.

"E si voz di toite voirmant qe les ydres de mout longaine parties hi vienent en pelegrinajes ausi come les cristiens vont a meser Saint Jaque en pelegrinajes, et cesti idres dient qe cel munument qe est sus celle montaigne est le filz au roi qe vos avés entendu, e qe les dens e les chevailz et la souele qe hi est furent ausint dou filz au roi qe avoit à non. Sergomom Borcan qe vaut a dir Sergomon saint; e les Saracinz qe en grandismes moutitude hi vient ausint en pelerinajes dient qe ce est le munument de Adam nostre primer pere, et qe les dens e les chevoilz e la scuele fu ausi de Adam. Or avés entandu comant les ydres dient qu'il est le filz au roi qe fu lor primer ydres e lor primiere dieu, e les Sarazins dient qu'il est deam nostre primer piere, mès dieu set qui est e quel fu : car nos ne oron pas que en celui leu Adam, car nostre escriture de sainte eglise dit q'el est en autre partie dou monde,"—P. 218.

2.—Pauthier's Printed Text.

2.—Pauthier's Printed Text.

"E encore vous di que Sarrazins y viennent de moult loings en pelerinage, et dient que il fu Adam. Et les ydolastres y viennent aussi de moult loings en pelerinage à grant devocion, aussi comme vont les crestiens à Saint Jacque en Galice. Et si dient que il fu le filz le roy, si comme je vous ay dit et conté. Et encore sur la montaigne sont les cheveulx et les dens et l'escuelle de celluy qui y fu, que il appellent Sergamon saint. Et qui que il fu, dieux le sect ; car selon la sainte escripture de notre Eglise, le monument d'Adam n'est pas en celle partie du monde."—P. 597. 2 .- Pauthier's Printed Text.

3.-Stockholm MS.

3.—Stockholm MS.

"Et encore vos di que li sarr' uien'ent de mlt' loins la en pelerinaige. & dient que il fu adan. Et li ydolastre y viennent aussi come li crestien uont asant iaque de galice. & nuoit encore sus cele montaigne des cheuoz de celui & sui cent [sio] & sescuele & qui fu diex le set. Car selone lescripture de n're eglise le monument dadam nest mie en cele p'tie."—Ch. clxv.

This collocation shows how the intolerable prolixity of the first dictation in No. 1 was reduced to more literary shape (No. 2), and how that again is further abridged in the MS. before us. But the abridgment is not always so judicious as in this case, and many a passage seems to be cut out that we should have been sorry to lose. The passage quoted also illustrates another defect in the Stockholm copy, and that is the want of intelligence in the transcription; see (e.g.) the teeth and begging-pot of Sakya converted into the gibberish of sui cens et sescuele. Of this want of intelligence many other examples might be given. Thus the name of Mafé (Maffeo) Polo is written Mace Pol; Tartar is written tarcar; Bolgara is written batata (!), &c.

Apart from abridgment the verbal variation in

the different copies of some mediæval narratives of this nature is a curious phenomenon, and one that I do not quite understand. In some cases, no doubt, it has arisen from translation and retranslation. Indeed, I have shown elsewhere

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that the French editions of Polo printed in the middle of the sixteenth century "completed this curious and vicious circle of translation: French, Italian, Pipino's Latin, Portuguese (?), Grynæus's Latin, French!" But such an explanation does not apply in the present case. It looks as if the practice in multiplying copies of such works was, sometimes at least, not to attempt verbal transcription, but merely to read over a clause, and then write down its gist in such words as came uppermost, probably more modern. Here is an example at hazard; a better one could be found with a little time :-

Pauthier's Text.

"Melibar est un grand royaume vers ponent; e ont langage par eus. et sont ydres......Sachiez que de ce royaume de Melibar......issent chacun an plus de cent rots, lesquelles vont en cour sus chacune. Et demeurent tout l'esté......Et maintenant que il voient rent tout l'esté......Et maintenant que il voient aucuns voilles, si font feu ou fumées pour seignal, et la s'assemblent tuit ensemblent; et la prennent et robent touz les marcheans. Et puis les laissent aler et leur dient: 'Aler gazignier car par aventure il sera encore nostre.'"—P. 652.

" Stockholm MS.

"Melibar est vns granz royaumes vers occident et ont languaige p' aus & sont ydres.....sachiez que de ce royaume de Melibar.....issent chacû an plus de c. nes roberresses & demuerêt en la mer tout lestey. c. nes roberresses & demueret en la mer tout lestey.
.....Et maintenant q'il uoient aucunne voile si font feu ou fumee pour signal & sessamblent tuit ensamble & robent les mercheanz touz et puis les en laissent aler lour dient trausilliez essez. car quanque uos guaignerez sera encore nre."—Ch. clxxiv.

Pauthier's text is evidently the more recent

A minor source of verbal difference in the various MSS. arises from dialectic character. This is very marked in the present case, though, not being an expert, I cannot say to what province the dialect belongs. We find pensarent, cheva-charent, donarent, trouvarent, mervoillarent, for pensèrent, chevauchèrent, donnèrent, trouvèrent, merveillèrent; chestel and pesser, for chasteau and passer, but, per contra, tablate, latres, novambre, instrumanz, vraiemant, for tablette, lettres, novembre, instrumens, vraiement; also haliffe for califfe, and habitually mons' (monsiour? or monseignour?) Littré gives no instance instead of messires. Littré gives no instance of monsieur before the fifteenth century. In Joinville messires is used in the nominative and monsignour in the oblique cases.

Here I must close these remarks. It will be seen that though the MS. is probably among the oldest four or five of Marco Polo that survive, and though the publication is a beautiful example of fac-simile, it contributes, as far as I have been able to examine it, nothing to the amelioration or elucidation of the text or narrative.

### Literary Gossip.

A LITERARY treasure of singular appositeness has just turned up in the form of a preface, written by Thackeray for the second edition of his 'Irish Sketch Book,' but suppressed by the publishers as being too outspoken. This preface, which forms a long essay on the political situation in Ireland, will shortly be printed in the Century Magazine. In it Thackeray strongly supports not merely the disestablishment of the Established Church, which, he says, "will no more grow in Ireland than a palm tree in St. Paul's Churchyard," but even the repeal of the Union. He goes so far as to venture on a prophecy that the latter concession will be eventually wrung from Sir Robert Peel. The paper is said to be written in Thackeray's most vivacious and most characteristic style, and will form a curious contrast to those acid comments by Carlyle on Irish affairs which are now also appearing in the Century Magazine.

AT the request of the family of Lord

Lyndhurst, Sir Theodore Martin has agreed to write a memoir of his life, and for this purpose has been furnished by Lady Lyndhurst with letters and other documents. The communication of letters from other quarters is solicited. The work will be published by Mr. Murray.

Mr. Wilkie Collins is engaged in writing a new serial story, the publication of which will begin next month. In this work the question of vivisection is placed in a new point of view by tracing the effect of the habitual practice of cruelty on human character. The story will be translated into the French, German, Italian, Dutch, and Swedish languages, by special arrangement with the author.

Mr. Anthony Trollope, who has been making a somewhat lengthy sojourn in Ireland, has just returned to London. We understand that a new work in connexion with Ireland may shortly be expected from

MESSRS. GEORGE ROUTLEDGE & SONS are about to publish a posthumous volume of poems by Mr. Longfellow, entitled 'In the Harbour.

THE Rev. Henry Lansdell, the author of 'Through Siberia,' is about to set out on a journey through Russian Central Asia. His route will lie across European Russia, which he has already traversed several times, and then by way of Tobolsk, Omsk, Semipalatinsk, Tashkent, and Samarcand, whence he proposes to proceed through Bokhara and Khiva to the Caspian. The record of his travels is likely to prove of considerable interest, especially if he will confine himself to his own personal experiences, and not trouble himself about "enriching" his narrative with those of previous travellers.

Among the books belonging to the late Mr. D. Rossetti which will be sold by auction at his house (16, Cheyne Walk) on July 5th is one of special interest to the admirers of Blake. This is the MS. book so frequently mentioned in Gilchrist's 'Life of Blake,' in Swinburne's essay on the mystic painter, and elsewhere. It is a rather thin, bound book of small quarto shape, and contains a large majority of those poems of Blake which have been first published since his death chiefly in Gilchrist's book, and some others in Swinburne's and in the Aldine edition; such as 'Broken Love,' 'The Everlasting Gospel,' 'The Mental Traveller,' the epigrams on Reynolds, Hayley, &c. It also contains a number of important or curious memoranda, and the two prose writings first published by Gilchrist—'The Canterbury Pilgrimage' and 'The Last Judgment.' There is, moreover, a multitude of designs —portraits of Blake and his wife, sketches for the 'Gates of Paradise,' and several others not as yet reproduced in any form. As the various writings in this book are scattered up and down its pages in a miscellaneous and often confused manner, Dante Rossetti copied out the verse, and Mr. William Rossetti the prose; transcripts (the prose now much mutilated) are bound into the same volume. book was procured by Rossetti when aged nineteen or thereabouts, for he was already at that early age an enthusiastic admirer of Blake's genius-then unknown save in

a very narrow circle-owing to a connexion of Mr. Palmer, the water-colour painter, who was the son-in-law of Blake's friend John Linnell. Another interesting feature of the Rossetti sale is supplied by the presentation copies from Messrs. Browning, Swinburne, Morris, and others. One of these is Mr. Swinburne's 'Atalanta in Calydon,' inscribed by the author as being the first copy issued from the press, and therefore lacking the dedication.

Before very long Capt. Burton will publish, in pursuance of his project of translating the whole works of Camoens, his version of the sonnets of the Portuguese poet. It is complete in manuscript.

MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER & Co. have in the press a new book by a new writer, which is said to be of more than average merit. It is a humorous and fantastic romance called 'Vice Versa,' and will be published on the 20th inst.

MR. HALLIWELL-PHILLIPPS is going to bring out a second edition of his 'Outlines of the Life of Shakespeare.' It is greatly enlarged, and contains some new pieces of information.

MESSRS. RICHARD & GEORGE TANGYE, of Birmingham, propose to fit up a room in the new Free Library of that town, to be called the "John Bright Room," and to stock it with books on history and political economy, and also to provide means of keeping up a supply of works on these subjects. They also propose to vest in the Birmingham Corporation a sum of money for the provision of prizes for students of history and political

The first college to be formally affiliated to the University of Cambridge under the new statutes will be University College, Nottingham. A member of the Cambridge Senate is to serve on the College Committee, and the Local Examination Syndicate will take such part in the College examinations as will ensure the stringency of the conditions observed in granting any certificates which the University is asked to recognize. The majority of the students of the College are of the age of seventeen at least, and the actual number of students attending one or more classes during the session 1881-2 was about 1,800. The practical utility of the buildings devoted by the Town Council to the purposes of the College, Free Library, and Free Natural History Museum was made widely known at the time of their formal opening. The College has an endowment of 10,000*l*., and last year received 2,200*l*. from the Town Council, while the Drapers' Company have granted 1,700l., spread over five years, for the acquisition of additional apparatus and other aids to teaching. Perhaps the most salient advantage to be gained by the affiliated college, in addition to the general support and recognition of its system of instruction, will be the exemption of its honour students from the Cambridge Previous Examination and from three terms of residence at Cam-Thus a student who may have bridge. attended a three years' course at the college in his own town with credit will be enabled to take an honour degree at Cambridge in a year and nine months from commencing Ir is in contemplation to erect a bronze

statue somewhere in the neighbourhood of

Paisley to the memory of the Scotch poet Tannahill, the proceeds of the recent anni-

versary concert with those of previous ones

affording a nearly sufficient sum for that

THE seventieth birthday of Miss Elizabeth

Peabody, of Concord, was celebrated by the Woman's Club of Boston, U.S., May 17th.

Miss Peabody, a sister of the late Mrs.

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Hawthorne, was prominent in the old transcendentalist movement, and edited the 'Æsthetic Papers,' which contained a s, his valuable essay by Emerson on 'War' not found in any of his volumes. She also contributed to the Dial. Her latest work is Reminiscences of William Ellery Chanin the ning.' Miss Peabody was present at the celebration in Boston, and stated that her which merit. mance grandfather informed her that he had been lished present at the first meeting held to consider the question of the separation of the American colonies from Great Britain. It assembled in the drawing-room of a private

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house in Dedham, Massachusetts. THE Chinese have long been in the habit of printing "sleeve editions" of the classics to assist candidates at the competitive examinations whose memories are not sufficiently retentive. A similar benevolent idea has lately induced a native merchant at Shanghai to print a diamond edition of the 'P'ei wan yun foo,' one of the largest lexicons in the language, consisting of 106 books. That it might be small enough to be easily hidden in the candidates' sleeves or plaited into their queues, it was necessary to print it in so small a type that the editor announces in his advertisement that he will

chaser to enable him to read it. MR. FRANCIS WATT and the Rev. A. Carter are preparing a work entitled 'Picturesque Scotland,' in which the chief points of interest in the scenery of that country will be treated of in connexion with its history and legendary and literary asso-

supply a magnifying glass to each pur-

KING'S COLLEGE and University College have been putting their claims to endowment as the only academical teaching bodies in London before the Commission charged to inquire into the City Companies. Both colleges already enjoy the help of some of the Companies, and they are naturally. anxious that, in case the Commission decide to recommend a redistribution of the funds of the Companies, they should not be overlooked; while in case the Commission should not suggest such a measure, they desire to have their claims to further aid brought by the Commissioners under the notice of the Companies. It is to be hoped that their case may be favourably considered, as the usefulness of both is hampered by want of

OUR Correspondent at Athens, M. Lambros, has been appointed Inspector-General of Public Elementary Schools in Greece, and head of a department in the Ministry of Education. We shall publish a letter of his

THE death of Garibaldi has led Messrs. Cassell & Co. to think of issuing a sixpenny edition of his novel, 'The Rule of the Monk.' It will be ready in a few days.

THE only known work of any English Jew before the expulsion in 1290 is that of Moses son of Isaac of London, of the family Nassiah (princess or countess), containing a Hebrew grammar, a lexicon, and a Massoretical treatise, and entitled 'Sepher hash-Shoham,' the book of Onyx (the letters Sh-h-m forming in another order M-sh-h, Moses). This work is found in a MS. of the Bodleian Library, and was considered unique until another one was acquired some ten years ago by the Imperial Library of St. Petersburg. The Rev. G. W. Collins, of Corpus Christi College, Cam-bridge, and of Keble College, Oxford, is making an edition of it according to the two extant MSS., and has just published the grammatical part with a preface on the life of the author and a short exposition of his grammatical system. Dr. Pusey is defraying the expenses of the printing of this book.

A WELL-KNOWN American journalist, Mr. James F. Bowman, has died at San Francisco. He was the anonymous author of a book entitled 'The Island Home,' which acquired an enormous circulation, and it was from this volume that Max Adeler drew his nom

AT the last meeting of the Council of the Camden Society the following resolution was ordered to be entered upon the minutes and to be communicated by the secretary to the family of the late Dr. Reinhold Pauli:-

"The Council of the Camden Society, at their meeting on the 7th of June, 1882, desire to record their extreme regret upon hearing of the death of the eminent historian Dr. Reinhold Pauli. Dr. Pauli's loss can hardly be overestimated, for in addition to his great learning and familiarity with the sources of the history and literature of his own and other countries, and England more especially, which had gained for him a worldwide reputation, he was en-dowed with amiable and social qualities that endeared him to all those with whom he came in contact. The Camden Society has especial cause for regretting his loss at the present moment, as for some time past he had been engaged in preparing for the press two Wardrobe Account Books of Henry, Earl of Derby, 1391-93, during his expeditions through Prussia, &c., which would no doubt have proved a most valuable contribution to the Society's publications, and the issue of which will have in all probability to be delayed for a considerable time.

THE library of Mariette Bey has been bought by the French Government.

THE well-known Egyptologist, M. Chabas, is dead.

A COMPLETE edition of the prose works of the Italian poet Giosuè Carducci is announced.

### SCIENCE

Geological Sketches at Home and Abroad. By Archibald Geikie, LL.D., F.R.S. (Macmillan & Co.)

Most of the essays in this volume are records of geological rambles, and thus afford full scope for just that kind of writing in which Prof. Geikie excels. Those who are familiar with his style will admit that much of his strength lies in his easy and happy way of describing scenery. Many other geologists can record their observations quite as accurately, and may reason on their observations with even greater vigour, but when it !

comes to portraying the features of a landscape no other geologist in this country can use his pen with equal effect. Almost instinctively Mr. Geikie seizes the characteristic points in a scene, and imprints them on his page in rich and appropriate language. In one sentence he employs phrases which possess the rigid accuracy that is begotten only of scientific training; yet into the next sentence he throws a feeling for the beauties of the scene which is in many cases worthy of a poet. If we say that in reading some of these essays we have been reminded of the graphic style of Hugh Miller, we need not add another word of

One of Mr. Geikie's earliest literary efforts was his 'Story of a Boulder,' a little volume which foreshadowed the line of work which he has since steadily followed. One of the papers in the present volume—'The Baron's Stone of Killochan'—is really another story of a boulder, though the boulder in this case is a very different stone from the travelled rock which formed the text of his earliest book. But the Baron's Stone does not take the lead in this volume. The collection of essays fitly opens with a paper entitled 'My First Geological Excursion,' in which he describes an expedition of a party of schoolboys to some limestone quarries near Edinburgh. The paper is amusingly written, but it would have been well to omit any reference to the way in which the young rascals amused themselves by stoning sticklebacks to death.

Some of the other papers descriptive of travels undertaken in riper years show how Prof. Geikie has intelligently sought to interpret the structure of his own land by visiting elsewhere the abodes of "Frost and Fire," the two great agents which have so largely contributed to geological phenomena. And so it comes about that we find him, during one vacation, studying the creeping glacier in the fiords of Norway, and at another time wandering among the old volcanoes of Central France, or roving over the Yellowstone Park, with its geysers and mud-eruptions. In studying the great fields of lava in some of the Western states he has become a convert to Richthofen's doctrine of "massive eruptions," and seeks in one of his essays to apply it in explana-tion of the origin of the great basaltic sheets in the Miocene rocks of North-western Europe. According to this view, the most stupendous outpourings of lava which the world has ever witnessed have not issued from volcanoes of the cone-and-crater type, but have flowed forth from gigantic fissures; and Prof. Geikie boldly suggests that some of the fields of lava which have been pro-duced in historic times have had a like origin. What would Poulett Scrope have said to this?

The fourteen essays which make up Prof. Geikie's volume have been gathered together from a variety of sources: some of them have appeared in serials such as Macmillan's Magazine and Good Words, while others have been contributed to certain learned societies, and are reproduced from their journals. To the latter class belongs a paper which may be regarded as the most philosophical in the collection. It is a lecture on geographical evolution, delivered some three years ago before the Royal Geographical Society—a

lecture in which he chronicles the series of geological revolutions which a continental mass of land may undergo, and illustrates his principles by tracing the gradual growth of Europe. Prominence is here given to the dogma, at present fashionable among geologists, that all the great continental ridges and deep ocean basins must have existed approximately in their present position from the remotest geological antiquity. In the extreme north-west of Scotland the so-called fundamental gneiss represents "a fragment of primeval Europe," that is to say, a relic of the earliest land surface, persistently preserved to our own day. Further, this surface seems to have been rounded by the passage of ice prior to the deposition of the overlying Cambrian rocks; and thus Prof. Geikie is at one with Dr. Hicks as to the probable existence of pre-Cambrian glaciers. Carry back the history of the stratified rocks as far as we can, and yet how vast an interval of time must separate these old strata from that pristine period of igneous activity which is recognized in every rational system of cosmogony!

JOHN SCOTT RUSSELL, F.R.S.

WE much regret having to record the death of Mr. Scott Russell, which took place on the 8th inst. at Ventnor. Mr. Scott Russell was the son of a Scotch clergyman, and was born in the Vale of Clyde in 1808. He was, therefore, in the seventy-fifth year of his age. In his early youth he recognized the immense advantage which a scientific education confers upon the practical engineer, and, after serving his time in the workshop, he entered upon university life, studied successively at St. Andrews, Edinburgh, and Glasgow, and graduated at the last university at the early age of sixteen. His first researches of importance were connected with the nature of waves, and the resistance which water opposes to the motion of floating bodies. At the age of twenty-four he had discovered the existence of the "wave of translation," or travelling wave, in contradis-tinction to the oscillating waves which had hitherto been studied by many mathematicians. This discovery was of immense importance, as it cleared up many phenomena connected with the tides which had hitherto been inexplicable. and enabled Mr. Scott Russell to frame a complete system of forming the exterior shapes of ships, so as to reduce to a minimum the resistance caused by wave-making in water. results of his investigations were communicated in the shape of an exhaustive report to the British Association in 1837, and in a paper read the same year before the Royal Society of Edinburgh. Mr. Russell was not content with mere theoretical investigations. He shortly began to apply what he had discovered to the construction of ships. He may very fairly be called the father of modern naval architecture, for he found shipbuilding an en pirical art and left it an exact science. He improved ships in two most important respects, viz., exterior shape and internal construction. The improvements in shape were due directly to his theoretical researches, the improvements in structure to his practical skill and genius as an engineer. He was the inventor of the method of plating ships by alternate, "in and out strakes," and also of the longitudinal cellular system of construction, which has for many years been adopted in all the ironclad ships of the navy, and is now coming largely into use in the mercantile marine.

When the necessity for iron armour for the defence of ships was first recognized, Mr. Russell's plans for an armoured sea-going frigate were adopted by the Admiralty, and two well-known

vessels of the Royal Navy, viz., the Warrior and the Black Prince, were built after his designs. His connexion with the Great Eastern is so

well known that it need not be here referred to at any length-it will be sufficient to remark that if his improvements had not been made that vessel could never have been built : and if any further advance is made in the size of our Transatlanticand Australian mailsteamers, the builders will probably find themselves under the necessity of adopting Mr. Russell's system of construc-tion in order to obtain sufficient longitudinal

strength. Mr. Russell by no means confined his attention to shipbuilding. He worked actively in other branches of engineering science. He built many marine engines and steam coaches, also roofs and bridges. His greatest roof is the dome of the Vienna Exhibition; it has the largest clear span (360 ft.) of any building in the world. He was also an active journalist and writer of technical works. He wrote for several years articles and reviews in the Athenœum, chiefly on such subjects as scientific shipbuilding, railways, and telegraphs, but also occasionally on the applications of art to industry. contributed numerous papers on scientific en-gineering subjects to the *Transactions* of the British Association, the Royal Society of Edinbritish Association, the Royal Society of Edinburgh, the Institution of Naval Architects, the Royal Institution of British Architects, the Royal United Service Institution, and the 'Encyclopædia Britannica.' He was also the author of a large work on 'Naval Architecture,' and of another on 'Systematic Technical Education.

In private life Mr. Russell was greatly valued by all who knew him. He was generous to a fault, and always endeavoured to contrive that his friends should share whatever success he himself enjoyed. His mind was essentially original on all points; even the commonest subjects of every-day life were regarded by him from quite new points of view. A temperament more unsuited to business and commercial transactions never existed. No doubt this failing was at the bottom of most of his reverses.

### SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—June 8.—The President in the chair.— Annual Meeting, for election of Fellows.—The fol-lowing were elected: Prof. V. Ball, Dr. G. S. Brady. Dr. G. Buchanan, C. B. Clarke, F. Darwin, Prof. W. Dittmar, Dr. W. H. Gaskell, R. T. Glazebrook, F. D. Godman, Prof. J. Hutchinson, Prof. A. Liversidge, Prof. J. C. Malet, W. D. Niven, R. H. I. Palgrave, Prof. J. C. Male and W. Weldon.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—June 12.—Right Hon. Lord Aberdare, President, in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected Fellows: Major-General F. C. Trevor, Major W. J. Williamson, Messrs. E. H. Day, J. Hingston, J. Martin, S. B. Power, H. Cooper Rose, jun., G. B. Starkweather, and J. W. Wells.—The paper read was 'Explorations in South Central Madagascar,' by the Rev. W. D. Cowan.

ASTRONOMICAL.—June 9.—Mr. E. J. Stone, President, in the chair.—Mr. F. G. Evans was elected a Fellow.—A paper was read from Prof. E. C. Pickering, giving a description of the instrument employed at the observatory of Harvard College for photometric observations of stars on or near the meridian, of not observations or stars on or near the meridian, of not less than the tenth magnitude.—A paper was also read from Dr. H. Draper, of New York, accompanying reproductions of a photograph of the nebula in Orion. The negative had been taken with an exposure of 137 minutes, and showed a large portion of the nebula and many small stars. Dr. Draper hoped to be able with still longer exposures to photograph stars which could not be seen in the telescope. He contemplated agrangements, which would permit stars which could not be seen in the telescope. He contemplated arrangements which would permit of an exposure of six hours.—Mr. Maunder read a paper 'On Spectroscopic Observations of Comet Wells made at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich.' The most striking feature in the spectrum was the remarkable development of a line in the yellow, apparently corresponding with the D line of sodium.—A note on the same subject by M. Dunér, of the Lund Observatory, was also read.—Mr. Hind gave some practical directions for the observation of comet Wells in daylight.—Mr. Knott read a paper on the variable star U Cephei.—The President gave an account of the arrangements which have been made for the observation of the transit of Venus in Decem-

ber next. He considered that there was good reason to hope that the sun's distance would be determined within half a million miles.—The following papers were also announced and partly read: 'Measures of the Companion to Sirius,' and 'Observations of Double Stars made at Chicago in 1879 and 1880,' by Mr. Burnham—'Sur les récentes Observations de M. Schiaparelli sur la Planète Mars,' by Dr. Terby,—'Transits of the Red Spot across the Central Mendian of Jupiter,' by Prof. C. W. Pritchett,—'The Solar Eclipse, 1882, May 16th,' by Mr. Perry,—'On possible Perturbations in Cometary Orbits caused by Nuclear Jets,' and 'Note on Lunar Photographs,' by Mr. Burton,—'Sextant Observations of Comet b, 1881,' by Capt, Parsons,—'Remarks on Prof. Newcomb's Paper on the Instructions for observing the Transit of Venus,' by Mr. Stone,—'On M. Loewy's Communication referring to an Apparatus for determining The Errors, 'On the best Method for determining the Errors of Division of Circles and Scales,' and 'Ephemeris for Physical Observations of Jupiter,' by Mr. Marth,—'Curves showing the Changes in the Diameter of the Moon, from the Greenwich Observations, 1750 to 1830,' by Mr. Stone,—and 'Elements of Comet Wells, obtained Graphically,' by Mr. Penrose.

Society of Antiquaries.—June 8.—Mr. J. Evans, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. A. W. Franks exhibited and presented a collection of architectural and topographical drawings by Samuel Lysons, the author of the 'Reliquiæ Brit. Rom.'—This being an evening appointed for the ballot, no papers were read. The following candidates were elected: Mr. A. Hartshorne and the Rev. J. F. Wickenden.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—June 7.—The Rev. S. M. Mayhew in the chair.—It was announced that the Duke of Somerset had been elected President of the Association for the ensuing elected President of the Association for the ensuing year, and that the annual congress would commence at Plymouth on the 21st of August. Visits will be paid to Totness, Dartmouth, Berry Pomeroy, Tavistock, and other places of interest in the locality.—Mr. J. Gunn called attention to the mutilation, many years ago, of some of the piers supporting the central tower and spire of Norwich Cathedral, and made suggestions for their being strengthened.—Mr. E. Way exhibited a number of Roman articles found in Southwark.—Mr. C. D. Sherborn produced a representative collection of flint and stone implements from America and European countries.—Mr. C. H. from America and European countries.—Mr. C. H. Compton described a fine collection of fictile objects, compton described a line confection of fictine objects, some from Athens, and many recently discovered in London, among which was a standing lamp of leather, formed evidently by compression in a mould.—Mr. L. Brock exhibited a series of Venetian beads found in Aldgate.—The Chairman described a large number of beautiful objects which he produced, among which a Alagate.—In Chairman described a large number of beautiful objects which he produced, among which a jewelled cross and a silver cover to a Roman thurible were of great interest.—The first paper, 'On Cuddy's Cove, Northumberland,' by Dr. A. C. Fryer, treated of a little-known natural cavern, the traditional place of abode of St. Cuthbert. Various references to Bede's 'History' appeared to point to the locality and to give ground to the tradition.—The second paper was by Dr. J. Stevens, 'On Urn Burials at Basingstoke.' During some recent building works two grave-like excavations in the chalk have been found in which were various food vessels and other vases of late British date. All appearance of interments apart from these had disappeared.—The third paper was by Mr. W. Myers, 'On a Roman Villa at Benizza, near Corfu.' A fine building has been discovered, the plan of which was exhibited, and the arrangements, here in very perfect state, throw light on similar buildings found in England in a more dilapidated condition.—The proceedings were more dilapidated condition.—The proceedings were brought to a close by remarks from the Chairman on the success of the session now concluded.

ZOOLOGICAL.-June 6.-Prof. W. H. Flower, Prezoological.—June 0.—Frot. W. H. Flower, fre-sident, in the chair.—The Secretary called the atten-tion of the meeting to the curious way in which the young cormorants lately hatched in the gardens were fed by the parent birds, and exhibited a draw-ing by Mrs. Hugh Blackburn illustrating this subject. —Communications and letters were read: from Frof. - Communications and letters were read: from Fro. St. George Mivart, on certain points in the anatomy of the cat tribe (Æluroidea), by Mr. H. Saunders, on some Laridæ collected by Capt. H. H. Markham, R.N., on the coasts of Peru and Chili; comprising, annongst other rarities, the third known example of the large fork-tailed gull (Xema furcatum), a species which had been vainly sought for on the Pacific coast of America for upwards of thirty years: the author drew attention to the peculiarities distinguishing the various species of gulls found in the Pacific from those of the rest of the globe, and pointed out that, owing to oceanic currents, the connexion between the species now only found on opposite sides of the equator had evidently been much more recent in the Pacific than in the Atlantic,—by Prof. F. J. Bell, on applying a method

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od reason etermined of formulation to the species of the Comatulidæ, and on a new species, which he proposed to all actinometra annulata,—by Mr. F. Day, on the supposed identity of a specimen of a fish determined by Dr. Gunther as Anguilla kieneri with a Gadoid Lycodes,—by Mr. E. J. Miers, the second portion of his paper on the Crustaceans received by the British Museum from the Mauritius, calling special attention to what appeared to be a variety of Palinurus loggimanus of the West Indies which occurred in it.—by Mr. H. J. Elwes, on a stone-chat (Saxicola) which he had obtained during a recent expedition to the Aures Mountains of Algeria,—and by Mr. W. A. Forbes, the fifth of his series of papers on the anatomy of Passerine birds. The of formulation to the species of the Comatulidae, ng papers easures of ations of 1 1880, by ations de or. Terby, tral Meriett,—'The erry,—'On caused by raphs,' by Comet b, rof. Newgames of the anatomy of Passerine birds. The present communication was devoted to the consideration of the genus Orthonyx, which was shown to be a true Oscinine form.—The Secretary exhibited a series of the diurnal and nocturnal lepidopterous insects bred in the insect house in the gardens during the present search. Loewy's for deter-ethod for ircles and servations owing the from the during the present season. r. Stone

MATHEMATICAL.—June 8.—Mr. S. Roberts, President, in the chair.—Messrs. Berry. Forsyth, and J. Wood were elected Members, and Mr. R. A. Roberts was admitted into the Society.—The following communications were made: 'On the Extension of certain Theories relating to Plane Cubics to Curves of any Deficiency,' by Mr. A. Buchheim,—'On the Differentation with respect to the Modulus of the Amplitude of Elliptic Functions,' by Rev. M. M. U. Wilkinson,—'Two Notes: (1) a Definite Integral; (2) Equation of the Director-circle of a Conic,' by Prof. Wolstenholme,—and 'Theory of Orthoptic Loci,' by Rev. Dr. Taylor.

Dr. Taylor.

New Shakspere.—June 9.—Mr. F. J. Furnivall in the chair.—Dr. B. Nicholson read a paper, 'Was Hamlet Mad?' answering the question in the affirmative. Treating the question from a strictly medical point of view, and quoting cases in point, Dr. Nicholson said that Shakspeare would choose to represent madness of a paroxysmal nature, as was common in the writings of his contemporaries. We first notice that it was his mother's impurity, not his father's death, that preyed upon his mind; that he was suffering from disappointed ambition; and that he had bad dreams, and a dislike for the harmless Polonius that was unaccountable. These were the "predisposing causes," the "exciting cause" being his father's ghost. The great proof of madness was his want of perception of moral reponsibility, as shown in his conduct after killing Polonius. His want of resolution was another striking point; and the idea, so common in madness, that his best friends were his enemies, as in Ophelia's case. Hamlet not only says himself that he was mad, but reiterates it.—Mr. Furnivall held that if Hamlet was mad then the interest in the play almost ceased.

Physical.—June 10.—Prof. Clifton in the chair.—

PHYSICAL.—June 10.—Prof. Clifton in the chair.—Major-General Martin was elected a Member.—Mr. W. F. Stauley read a paper 'On Sonorous Vibrations,' illustrated by experiments on tuning-forks.—Mr. W. Baily exhibited a working model of an integrating anemometer.—The Society meets at Oxford on June 17th, and South Kensington on June 24th.

anemometer.—The Society meets at Oxford on June 17th, and South Kensington on June 24th.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF HELLENIC STUDIES.—June 15.—Annual Meeting.—Prof. C. T. Newton in the chair.—The following is the substance of the report of the Council. The most important event in the history of the Society during the past year was its share in Mr. Ramsay's Phrygian expedition. At Mr. Ramsay's suggestion the Society sent out, by means of a fund raised for the occasion, an artist, Mr. A. C. Blunt, to accompany the expedition. The results of the journey, including the discovery of some very remarkable rock-tombs in Phrygia, were recorded in Mr. Ramsay's paper which opened the new volume of the Journal of Hellenic Studies. With the paper were published some of Mr. Blunt's drawings. Others would be given with a subsequent paper. On the whole, the Society might fairly be congratulated on the result of its first venture in the field of exploration, and feel encouraged to further efforts in the same direction. To this end it was most important that its numbers should be increased, and members were urged to exert themselves to secure candidates for election. The Society now numbered rather more than five hundred, but this, though encouraging, was by no means so great an increase as could be wished. With a view to carrying into effect one of the principal objects indicated in the Society's rules, the Council had sanctioned the reproduction by photography of the famous Laurentian Codex of Sophoeles, provided that one hundred subscribers could be found at 6t. each, the total cost for one hundred copies being calculated not to exceed 600t. A circular would be issued to members, and the Council hoped that there would be no difficulty in making up the subscription. Another appeal which the Council had decided to sanction, though undertaking no re-

sponsibility, was for a fund of 500l. to enable Mr. Ramsay to fulfil the conditions of an Extraordinary Fellowship, to which, in the interests of archaeology, one of the colleges at Oxford was prepared to appoint him, with a view to his continuing his researches in Asia Minor. The Council thought that it is appeal deserved the hearty support of members of the Society. The fund would be administered by a committee appointed by the subscribers. The Council then stated that since the last annual meeting arrangements had been made for the use by members of the various books and periodicals which had been acquired by the Society. The rules were in the hands of members. In regard to the Journal of Hellenic Studies, the Council thought that if the standard of the first two volumes could be maintained the success of this department of the Society's work was assured. The balance sheet showed an income which, including lastyear's balance, amounted to 1,575l. 16s. 1d., as against an expenditure of 522l. 14s. 5d. The present balance was therefore 664l. 11s. 8d. over and above the life subscriptions, 38sl. 10s., which had been invested in Consols. Arrears of subscriptions were due to the amount of 139l. 13s. On the whole, looking back over the third year of the Society's existence, the Council and of individual members to enable the Society to carry out effectively in every department the objects which it professedly had in view.

### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

### Science Cossip.

THE Albert Medal of the Society of Arts, instituted in 1862, and awarded annually for "distinguished merit for promoting arts, manufac-tures, or commerce," has been awarded for the present year to M. Pasteur, for "his researches in connexion with fermentation, the preservation of wines, and the propagation of zymotic diseases in silkworms and domestic animals, whereby the arts of wine making, silk production, and agriculture have been greatly benefited.'

Invalids will evidently not lack advisers.
Two new books for their benefit are announced. Messrs. Chapman & Hall have in the press a work by Dr. J. Burney Yeo on 'Health Resorts and their Uses,' being vacation studies in various health resorts; and Mr. R. H. Otter has written a volume called 'Winters Abroad,' which is not limited to well-known European resorts, but describes Australia, Sydney, Queensland, the Cape, Egypt, and Algiers, devoting an especial chapter to Davos.

The Society of Arts held a conversazione at South Kensington Museum on the 14th inst., and the Royal Colonial Institute will hold one on the evening of the 23rd.

Those interested in the bust of Liebig, executed by the late Herr M. Wagmüller, of Munich, are requested by the sculptor's widow to refer to Mr. E. R. Mullins, 18, Fitzroy Street, Fitzroy Square, W., where there is a copy to be seen in his studio. seen in his studio.

THE Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society has just issued its Forty-ninth Annual Report, containing, as usual, a considerable amount of valuable matter, relating especially to ore-dressing and mining operations. On the 5th of September next the Jubilee Exhibition of the Society will be opened. Great efforts are being made to render it unusually attractive, and a large sub-scription fund has been raised for this purpose. Electrical applications—especially the lighting of mines by electricity—will form an attractive feature.

M. DIEULAFAIT informs the Academy of Sciences of Paris that he has detected both lithia and boracic acid in notable proportions in the waters of the Dead Sea. These facts, he says, prove the marine origin of the Dead Sea. M. Dieulafait's conclusions do not appear to us satisfactory.

IF we may judge by the circular (No. 16) of the Johns Hopkins University, the study of mathematics is flourishing under the auspices of Prof. matics is flourishing under the auspices of Prof. Sylvester. The professor has delivered two courses of lectures, one on the Theory of Numbers, the other on a New Theory of Universal Multiple Algebra. Prof. Cayley, of Cambridge, went to the States in December last, and has delivered a course of lectures upon Algebraical Geometry, in connexion with the Abelian and Theta Functions. Several shorter courses of Geometry, in connexion with the Abelian and Theta Functions. Several shorter courses of mathematical lectures have been given. Courses have also been conducted in the regular classes by Dr. Story, Dr. Craig, and Dr. Franklin. The Mathematical Seminary, which constitutes in fact the Mathematical Society of the University, has held eight meetings, at which papers have been presented and discussed. Other communications have been read before the Johns Hopkins Scientific Association and at less formal meetings. Three numbers of the fourth volume of the American Journal of Mathematics have been issued during the academic year, and have been issued during the academic year, and the concluding number of the volume is in the press and will shortly appear. The second number and a part of the third were devoted to the late Prof. Benjamin Peirce's 'Memoir on Linear Associative Algebra,' with notes and addenda by Mr. C. S. Peirce.

DR. A. L. DE VILLANOVA, according to Les Mondes, has proved that grapes exposed to solar light contain more sugar by 3.79 per cent. and less acid by 1.23 per cent. than such as have remained in darkness.

Prof. H. M. Paul reports to the Seismological Society of Japan on the distance to which tremors from the movement of heavy bodies may be detected through the earth's surface. may be detected through the earth's surface. These tremors were observed by means of a box filled with mercury slightly thickened by tin, which was screwed on to a post sunk between four and five feet into the ground. An express train passing at a distance of three-quarters of a mile set the mercury in vibrations which lasted these minutes and a one horse valids passing. three minutes, and a one-horse vehicle passing along a gravelled road at 500 feet distance sensibly agitated the fluid metal whenever the wheel struck a pebble.

### FINE ARTS

The GROSVENOR GALLERY.—SUMMER EXHIBITION.—NOW OPEN, from Nine till Seven.—Admission, Is., Seven Tokata for

ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—The NINETY-SEVENTH EXHIBITION IS NOW OPEN, 5a, Pail Mail East, from Ten to Six.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d; Hustratea ditto, 1s. ALFRED D FRIPP, Secretary.

The RIGHTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of PICTURES by Artists of the British and Foreign Schools is NOW OPEN at TROMAS McLEAN'S Gallery, 7, Haymarket.—Admission, including Catalogue, is.

TERCENTENARY of SIR FRANCIS DRAKE—The COMMEMO RATIVE PICTURES—The Armada sailing from Ferrol—The Armada in Sight: Plymouth hoe—and the Decisive Battle off Gravelines—together with some Relic of Drake and his time. ON VIEW Daily from Ten til Six, at Messrs. H. Graves & Co. 8, 6, Pail Mail.—Admission, 1s.

WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS by MR AYSCOUGH WILKINSON, ON VIEW at MESSES, BARNARD'S Gallers, 233, Oxford Street, from 12th to end of June.—Sketches in Italy, North Wales, London, &c.— Admission Free on presentation of Address Card.

The LION AT HOME, by ROSA DONHEUR.—This splendid Chef-deuvre, the latest production of this celebrated Artist, also the complete Engraved Works of Rosa Bonheur, NOW ON EXHIBITION at L. H. LEFEYRE'S Gallery, 1a, King-street, 5t. James 3, 8 W.—Admission, 1s Ten to Six.

DORÉ'S GREAT WORKS. 'CHRIST LEAVING the PRÆTORIUM, 'CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM,' and 'MOSES before PHARAOH,' each 35 by 22 feet. with 'Ecce Homo,' 'The Ascension,' 'Dream of Filate's Wife, 'Soidiers of the Cross.' A Day Dream,' &c., at the DORÉ GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street. Daily, Ten to Six.—1s.

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### NOTES FROM ROME.

The Fornix Fabianus. -- It is doubtful whether this venerable relic was actually found standing in 1543. The statements of contemporary writers are so contradictory that it seems im possible to make out the truth. Some assert that the stones, inscribed with the name of the famous conqueror of Savoy, Q. Fabius Maximus Allobrogicus, were found built in the vault of the Cloaca Maxima; others describe not only the exact spot where the arch stood, but also its decorations, trophies, victories, &c. At any rate, the thirty or more huge blocks of travertine undoubtedly belonging to it which we have discovered lay scattered over an area of several hundred square feet, on the west side of the imperial Sacra Via, and nearly opposite the street which divides the temple of Faustina from the Heroon of Romulus. No trace of foundation, not a stone standing on its genuine site, was found. Judging from the style of the fragments, the arch was a simple structure indeed. worthy of the austerity of republican times, and resembling pretty closely the arch represented on the bas-reliefs or sculptured plutei of Trajan, found in 1872 near the column of Phocas. diameter of the archway measures 3.94 mètres. It was built of travertine on the outside surface only, the nucleus being of tufa and peperino.

The Regia. - Between the Sacra and the Nova Via, at the foot of the Orti Farnesiani, lay the remains of a noble building, handsomely decorated with columns and paintings and pave-ments of various kinds. On the north side a large court or atrium can be traced, surrounded by columns and half columns of travertine coated with painted stucco. At the foot of the colonnade runs a gutter for draining off the rainwater falling from the roof of the portico. The inner building, south of the atrium, contains several apartments, one of which resembles a small basilica; another, very large indeed, opens towards the Sacra Via through a portico of two columns only of plastered stone; then follows the cistern, with the puteal on the same level as the floor. The walls are built with different kinds of materials, from the granular, soft yellowish tufa of the kingly period to the hard red tufa of later republican times. Here and there are still later restorations of reticulated and brick work. The same process of restoration appears in the pavements, which originally were of a kind of rubble work, covered afterwards with opus spicatum and mosaics in chiar-

Archæologists and topographers agree in identifying these remains with the famous Regia, the official residence of the "Pontifices Maximi," a large establishment connected with Vesta's temple and the adjoining nunnery, and stretching south along the Sacra Via towards the summit of the ridge or watershed between the basin of the Forum and that of the Coliseum. In the first century of our era the Regia had lost much of its former consideration, as the emperors, who lived on the Palatine, had absorbed also the dignity of Pontifex Maximus. It seems that after the great fire of Nero the Regia was never rebuilt, and that its site was occupied by new buildings of a character altogether different. The level of these new buildings being between four and five feet higher, the remains of the Regia were not obliterated; they were cut down as far as it was absolutely necessary to lay down the new floors. This explains how we were able to survey the plan of the Regia underneath the imperial stratum of ruins. A small section of the building seems, however, to have been preserved, the sacrarium in which the hasta Martis were kept.

The Porticus Margaritaria.—The catalogues of the fourteen regions of Rome describe among the monuments of the eighth a Porticus Margaritaria, the site of which was altogether unknown. On the left or western edge of the Sacra Via, and parallel to it, we have found the

remains of a portico, 201 ft. long, 24 ft. wide, originally built of travertine. The pilasters, fourteen in number on each row, rest on two parallel foundation walls of rubble work, which are not horizontal, but follow the incline of the Sacra Via. The difference of level between the two extreme points is not less than 8 ft. One may compare it with the inclined wings of Bernini's portico at the end of the Piazza of St. Peter. In the fourth century of our era the portico on the Sacra Via was strengthened with pilasters of brickwork, which alone have been preserved; the travertines were stolen, very likely under Alexander VII. Ancient writers and tombstones mention very frequently tradesmen "margaritarii de Sacra Via." The portico built in front of their shops must have been named from them, and consequently the Porticus Margaritaria of the catalogues must be identified with the one just found on the border of the eighth region and on the edge of the Sacra Via, connected with shops and private dwellings which occupy the whole space between the street and the foot of the Palatine.

### RODOLFO LANCIANI.

### fine-Brt Cossig.

The Duke of Somerset, who is Lord Lieutenant of Devon, has accepted the office of President of the British Archæological Association for the year, and it is to be hoped will deliver one of his original and characteristic addresses at the opening meeting of the twenty-ninth annual congress of the Association, to be held at Plymouth on Monday, August 21st. The week's proceedings will conclude at Plymouth on August 26th, and commence anew, for the space of three days, at Liskeard, under the able guidance of Mr. W. C. Borlase, M.P.; and, with the help of Mr. Wright, F.S.A., Hon. Secretary to the Congress, and the other officers of the Association, as much of that part of Cornwall will be visited as the short time available for explorations will permit.

A LOAN exhibition of unusual interest is promised for June 27th and four following days at Crescent House, Fulham Road, on behalf of the Working Ladies' Guild. The old-fashioned house, which has been decorated throughout by Mr. Morris, will contain art treasures and historic relics (many never before exhibited) from the collections of the Earls of Warwick, Denbigh, and Waldegrave, the Countess of Caledon, Lady Eastlake, Mrs. Gambier Parry, Mrs. Legh of Lyme, and others. A sale of art needlework, by members of the Guild and by distressed Irish gentlewomen, will also take place.

THE exhibition of early German woodcuts at the Burlington Club will close on July 2nd.

Mr. Holman Hunt's picture 'Strayed Sheep,' originally named 'Our English Coasts,' was sold on Saturday last by Messrs. Sotheby for 700l.

An exhibition will be opened at Worcester next July of the fine arts, Worcestershire industries, and objects illustrative of the history of the city and county. The fine-art section will receive contributions from any quarter, but the industrial and historical parts of the show will be limited to the county. It is believed that the attempt has never yet been made in England to bring together in one building a complete exhibition the industrial products of a single county. The celebrity which Worcestershire enjoys for the application of art to manufactures, and the extent and variety of its industries, should render the industrial section interesting and important, and a collection of objects specially illustrative of the past history of Worcestershire ought to prove instructive. Any profit derived from the exhibition will be devoted to the promotion of literature, science, art, and industry in the city and county, and any donations of works of art to the formation of a permanent art gallery.

It is proposed to issue an illustrated volume dealing with the life and works of David Scott, R.S.A. The letter-press will consist of a biographical and critical essay by Mr. J. M. Gray, author of 'George Manson and his Works, 're-printed, with revision and considerable additions, from Blackwood's Magazine, and a carefully compiled catalogue of the artist's works, giving particulars as to their size, present owners, &c.

On Saturday morning last died Mr. William Henry Simmons, the able engraver, who was born in London, June 11th, 1811, and, after many years of diligent study in this metropolis, made his first appearance at the Academy exhibition in 1857 with prints after two pictures have Mr. Frank Stone. Since that date here by Mr. Frank Stone. Since that date, how-ever, he has been a pretty constant contributor, and his 'An Humble Servant,' after Mdlle. Rota Bonheur's picture of a donkey's head, an example of his best powers we have lately warmly comor his best powers we have lately warmly commended, is now at Burlington House. His finest plates are, after Landseer, 'Rustic Beauty' (1851), 'Catherine Seyton' (1850), 'Well-bred Sitters,' 'Dominion,' and 'On Trust' (1875), 'Royal Sports,' 'The Sick Monkey,' 'Taming the Shrew,' and 'The Fatal Duel.' After Mr. Millais he engraved 'The Proscribed Royalist,' 'The Late Biose of Manager' and Rayalist,' 'The Late Biose of Manager' and Rayalist,' Millais he engraved 'The Proscribed Royalist,'
The Lost Piece of Money,' and 'Rosalind and
Celia.' After Mr. Faed he produced plates of
'Highland Mary,' 'Daddy's Coming,' 'Sunday
in the Backwoods,' 'The Poor Man's Friend,'
'A Wee Bit Fractious,' 'Baith Faither and
Mither,' 'The Last of the Clan,' 'His only Pair,' and 'New Wars to an Old Soldier'; after Pair, and 'New wars to an Old Soldier; after Mr. A. Solomon, 'Waiting for the Verdict' and 'The Acquittal'; after Mr. E. Nicol, 'Both Puzzled,' 'Steady, Johnny, Steady!' and 'Always tell the Truth'; after Mr. Holman Hunt, 'The Light of the World' (twice) and 'Col., 'In the World' (twice) and 'The World' (twice) and 'Col., 'In the World' (twice) and 'Col., 'In the World' (twice) and 'The World' (twice) and 'Claudio and Isabella'; after Mr. J. Tissot, 'News of our Marriage'; after Mr. Frith, 'The Marriage of the Prince of Wales'; after Mr. Hook, 'Luff, Boy!' and after Mille. R. Bonheur, 'The Old Monarch.' In addition to these excellent subjects of his graver Mr. Simmons transcribed many works by Messrs. Dobson, Le Jeune, Van Lerius, Winterhalter, and others. He lived for many years at 247, Hampstead Road, where he expired after not more than a week's illness. In him the English school of engraving has lost an honourable, learned, and thoroughly qualified leader. He had just completed the etching, the most important part, of a large plate after 'The Lion at Home,' by Mdlle. R. Bonheur.

WE greatly regret to record the death of Mr. Cecil Lawson, the well-known landscape painter. His works showed the influence of pictures by the old masters as they appear when time and dirt have marred the purity and pristine brilliancy of their tints, and imparted tones that are dear to the cognoscenti. On the other hand, the same influence led to a poetic conception of nature and a selection of nobly pathetic motives. Injudicious admirers praised this clever artist for qualities he seemed not to care for, such as "strength, sweetness, and delicacy," and until recently he appeared to take for granted the justice of their criticism. Quite lately, however, a marked improvement occurred in his work, and it seemed that early promises were likely to be fulfilled. These hopes were unfortunately destroyed by Mr. Lawson's death, from inflammation of the lungs, on Saturday afternoon last at the early age of thirty-two years. We remember no early age of thirty-two years. We remember no picture of his before the small study called 'Cheyne Walk, Chelsea,' which was at the Academy in 1870. At that time, as he was born in Shropshire in December, 1851, he must have been very young indeed. In 1871 he contributed 'The River in Rain,' a Thames study of much merit, and 'A Summer Evening at Cheyne Walk.' 'A Lament' appeared in 1872; 'A Pastoral, in the Vale of Miefod, North Wales, in 1873. 'The Hop-Gardens of England' at tracted popular attention in 1876, but did not please severer critics. 'View from Don Saled volume vid Scott, of a bio-M. Gray, Vorks, readditions, fully comriving par-8, &c. . William who was and, after

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tero's, Cheyne Walk,' suffered by being hung near the classic 'View near Bocca d'Arno' of Signor Costa, now in the Fine-Art Society's gallery; but it had many excellent qualities, and could not be overlooked. 'The Wet Moon, Old Battersea,' and 'An Autumn Sunrise' pained the eyes by the dirtiness of their colouring, but their expressiveness was delighted, they were at the Academy in 1878. Those colouring, but their expressiveness was delightful; they were at the Academy in 1878. These works were followed in 1879 by 'Sundown,' 'Old Battersea,' and 'A Wet Moon'; 'A Moonlight Pastoral' in 1880; 'The Pool' and 'Bardon Moors' in 1881. In the Grosvenor Gallery Exhibition in 1878 was 'The Minister's Carlon', a ronderguit reals' the Minister's Garden,' a nondescript work, the good and bad qualities of which were tests for critics. Of his paintings which are now in Bond Street and Burlington Gardens we have lately written. The deceased was, we believe, one of the sons of Mr. W. Lawson, a meritorious portrait painter, who is still living.

At the gallery of Messrs. Dowdeswell & Co., New Bond Street, may be seen not only M. A. Detaille's picture 'The Cemetery of St. Privat,' which we described at length when it was in the Salon, but two smaller paintings, called 'Saving the Queen's Colours' and 'The Last Sleep of the Brave,' by the same artist, which, although rather rougher in execution than some of their forerunners, wirerus and expressive. The former are vigorous and expressive. The former represents the escape of Lieuts. Coghill and Melville on horseback with the British colours. The horses are wonderfully animated and capitally drawn. The second picture shows the finding of the bodies of the two officers after they had carried the colours across the Buffalo The flag lies athwart the breast of Lieut. Melville, and in this respect the picture is not quite a veritable record. For dealing dramatically and effectively with the subject the painting deserves nothing but praise. Messrs. Dowdes-well have reproduced both these works in colours with great success and surprising fidelity. The pictures lent themselves to the process, and the process suited the pictures in a very remarkable manner.

MR. W. H. J. WEALE writes:—"I see by a paragraph in your issue of the 3rd inst. that information is asked for as to Anthony van den Wyngaerde. He was a native of Antwerp, and was admitted as master into the Guild of St. Luke in 1510. He continued to reside in Antwerp until about 1530. After that he travelled through the Low Countries, England, Spain, and Portugal. A large number of very clever and accurate views of towns, royal residences, castles, and monuments executed by him were in the possession of the Moretus family (successors of Christopher Plantin), and were purchased of them through a third person by the late Mr. Dominic Colnaghi. The collection was broken up and dispersed; the views in the Bodleian form but a small portion, the greater part are in private hands."

THE death is announced of the well-known M. Narcisse Lecomte. He obtained a third class medal in 1833, and one of the second class in 1846.

M. BOULANGER has been elected to fill the chair in the Académie des Beaux-Arts vacated by the death of M. Lehmann. M. E. Guillaume, Member of the Institute, has been named as successor of M. C. Blanc as Professor of Æsthetics and the History of Art in the Collége de France. M. Vela has been elected Foreign Associate of the Académie des Beaux-Arts. M. Vela is a Milanese sculptor.

Some of the French artistic journals, much exercised by the stupendous price paid by Mr. Wallis for the 'Napoléon' of M. Meissonier, have continued to report the prices obtained for works of art in London. This was formerly a rare occurrence on the part of our self-centred foreign brethren.

The following works of art, noticed in our review of the Salon, have been, with others, bought by the French Government. Pictures: M. Sautai's 'Intérieur de l'Église de Lavardin' (2405); M. Duez's 'Autour de la Lampe' (912); and M. Dewant's 'L'Enterrement d'un Invalide' (744); M. Idrac's statue 'Salammbo' (4492), and M. Cain's group in plaster, called 'Rhinoceros attaqué par des Tigres' (4173).

THE Gallery at Amsterdam has been fortunate enough to secure the picture by Rembrandt, a version of 'The Anatomy Lesson,' to which we have more than once referred as having been seen and greatly admired by Reynolds in the upper story of the same gallery about a century since. It represents Doctor Deyman giving a lesson in anatomy, and, comprising portraits of other men of science, has a general resemblance to the more famous painting containing the portrait of Dr. Tulp. In 1842, having been much injured by repainting and otherwise, it was sold from the gallery to Mr. Chaplin, an English amateur and merchant, for about 600 florins. From his possession it passed to that of Mr. Price Owen, who exhibited it at Leeds in 1868. Its his-tory was perfectly well known to ourselves and others. At the sale of the Price Owen pictures it was again recognized, and the Athenaum pointed out that it had been badly injured and worse repaired. It has lately been replaced in the Dutch national collection, after somewhat merciless cleanings and "restorations."

### MUSIC

### THE WEEK.

DRURY LANE.—German Opera: Weber's 'Euryanthe.'
Sr. JAMES'S HALL.—Symphony Concerts (Schumann's Faust Musio). Philharmonic Society. CRYSTAL PALACE.—Saturday Concerts. Sr. JAMES's HALL.—Richter Concerts.

Weber's 'Euryanthe,' produced last Tuesday evening by the German company now performing at Drury Lane, is one of those works much talked of, but little known. Herr Max Maria von Weber, in his biography of his father, gives full details about the origin of the work, the first sketches of the libretto, and the numerous, and not always beneficial, modifications made in it during the 'course of composition. The work was written for Barbaja, the manager of the Kärnthnerthor Theater in Vienna, who commissioned it in consequence of the success of 'Der Freischütz' in that city. The libretto was written by Helmine von Chezy, who took her subject from an old French romance, which also furnished Shakspeare with the material for 'Cymbeline.' .Unfortunately the text of the opera is, in some respects, so absurd and its plot so unnatural that it is to this cause we must attribute the very infrequent representations of the work. The argument, in the fewest possible words, is as follows: Adolar, Count of Nevers, is betrothed to Euryanthe. At a festival given by the king he sings the praise of his be-tro hed. Lysiart, Count of Forest, the villain of the piece, who does not believe in female virtue, wagers his lands against those of Adolar that he will gain Euryanthe's love. The wager is accepted, and Lysiart fails ignominiously in his attempt. Eglantine, a false friend of Euryanthe, has obtained from her the knowledge of an important secret concerning the mysterious death of a sister of Adolar. This secret, from hatred to Adolar, she tells to Lysiart, giving him also a ring which she had stolen from the dead woman's tomb. Armed with

these proofs, Lysiart claims to have won his wager. Adolar disbelieves Euryanthe's protestations of innocence, and takes her away with the intention of slaying her. He partially relents, however, and instead of killing her with his own hand leaves her alone in a desert. Here she is discovered by the king, who is out with a hunting party; she tells him how Eglantine coaxed her secret from her; and the king, imme-diately convinced of her innocence, promises to restore her to Adolar and to do her justice. All is, of course, made right in the end.

The weak points of this plot, of which we have only given the barest outline, are obvious at once. The mere revealing of a secret seems most insufficient evidence of infidelity, and it is hard to say whether the conduct of Adolar in condemning his betrothed on such evidence, or that of Eury-anthe, who contents herself with denial of her faithlessness, and never gives a word of explanation, is the more unnatural. Since in the third act Euryanthe's statement concerning Eglantine is at once accepted as satisfactory, it is unintelligible why the statement should not have been made when she was first accused, excepting for the insufficient reason that this would have brought the drama to an abrupt termination at the end of the second act. The only characters of the opera who possess any marked personality are Lysiart, a villain of the deepest dye, and Eglantine, who may probably have suggested to Wagner the character of Ortrud in 'Lohengrin.'

On this weak, almost preposterous, drama, Weber has nevertheless written one of his finest scores. The composer, annoyed by the remark of certain critics of the 'Freischütz,' that he might write a good "Singspiel," but would not succeed in grand opera, threw his whole strength into the work. It is perhaps not generally known that 'Euryanthe' is in the principles of its construction the direct predecessor of Wagner's musicdramas. In a letter written on December 20th, 1824, to the Akademische Musikverein of Breslau, Weber says that the work would be ineffective in the concert-room because it is "a purely dramatic experiment, relying for its effect only on the combined working together of all the sister arts." It is true that Wagner carries the principles much further than Weber, for in 'Euryanthe' the usual musical forms are retained, though the various numbers in most cases follow one another without a break. The 'Fliegende Holländer' and the 'Tannhäuser' are the works of Wagner which in their form most nearly resemble 'Euryanthe'; in 'Tristan' and 'Die Meistersinger' we find an extension of Weber's principles, by which they may be said to be carried to the utmost development of which they are capable.

While in many respects Weber's most finished work, 'Euryanthe' must be admitted to be less spontaneous than the 'Freischütz.' It has been well said by Jähns that the latter grew out of Weber, as it were of itself, while the former was the mature product of his riper years. It must not be, therefore, inferred that 'Euryanthe' is either laboured or deficient in melody; but it appeals less to the popular ear, although with musicians it will rank above

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its predecessor. In power of dramatic characterization it is unsurpassed. The music allotted to Eglantine and to Lysiart is quite distinct in tone and colour from that given to Euryanthe and Adolar; and all these personages possess musical individuality altogether different from that given to Max, Agatha, and Caspar in the 'Freischütz.' The prevailing tone of the earlier opera is what the Germans call "volksthümlich"-it deals with the burghers and the middle class of people; in 'Euryanthe' we are in the society of courtly nobles, knights, and ladies; and the general character of the music is, therefore, more elevated.

An important feature of this opera is the prominence given to the chorus, which has not only to sing but to act. In the opening scene of the wager, in the great finale to the second act, and in the second scene of the third, Weber has given us choral movements of a dramatic effect previously unattempted in opera, which seem to have served as models to Meyerbeer and other modern composers, including Wagner. So far as our memory serves us, the employment of the chorus as actual sharers in the drama, rather than as accessories introduced for purely musical effect, was due to Gluck; but Weber in the present work is the first of the more modern composers who has shown how this important factor in the work could be utilized for dramatic purposes.

The first impression produced by witnessing a performance of 'Euryanthe' on the stage is one of delight at the surpassing charm of the music; the next is a feeling of astonishment that Weber, with his experience and with his true dramatic feeling, could bring himself to accept such a libretto. It has been truly remarked that 'Der Freischütz' is a work to be heard, while 'Euryanthe' is a score for the study; and in spite of the composer's opinion, quoted above, there is little doubt that the latter work would be at least as effective in the concert-room as on the stage. Weber has written nothing more levely than Euryanthe's first song, "Glöcklein im Thale," or Adolar's two songs; nothing more dramatic than the great scenas for Eglantine and Lysiart, or the duet in the second act between the two; yet the absurdity of the plot and the unreality of the situations destroy the dramatic illusion altogether, and one listens to the work with a feeling of admiration for the splendid music, but with nothing of the sympathetic thrill aroused by a good performance of 'Fidelio,' 'Tannhäuser,' or 'Die Meistersinger.' We doubt whether Weber's masterpiece can ever keep possession of the stage; it will probably remain as a monument of his genius, and, at the same time, as a warning to other composers against the acceptance of bad libretti.

The performance on Tuesday was worthy of the reputation which Herr Richter and the company which he directs have already earned. Frau Sucher was unsurpassable as Euryanthe, at times (especially in the third act) almost galvanizing the lay figure into a semblance of life, while her charming singing proved that Wagner's declamatory music had not, as is sometimes the case with less talented artists, impaired her abilities

this company, scored a brilliant success in a most difficult part. Her delivery of the trying scena in the first act was magnificent, while as an actress she proved herself quite worthy of her colleagues. Herr Nachbaur, the Adolar, acted and sung his part very artistically; but his voice, long since past its prime, was not always equal to the demands made upon it by the composer. Herr Gura was an admirable Lysiart, and Herr Nöldechen very effective as the King; while the small parts of Bertha and Rudolf were in the safe hands of those excellent artists Fräulein Wiedermann and Herr Landau. The chorus was, as usual, remarkably fine, and the orchestra left little to desire. The opera was warmly received, and it is only due to the audience to say that the applause was in general as discriminating as it was hearty.

The fourth Symphony Concert, which was given last Thursday week at St. James's Hall, derived especial interest from the production, for the first time in England in a complete form, of Schumann's "Scenes from Goethe's 'Faust.'" The third and finest part of the work has been thrice before heard in London-once at a concert of the Philharmonic Society, and twice at the concerts of the Borough of Hackney Choral Association; but the first and second parts were new to our concert-goers.

Schumann has not attempted musical setting of the whole of Faust, nor is there any special dramatic connexion between the various portions. He has simply chosen such scenes as appeared to him suitable for musical illustration. From the first and better-known part of 'Faust' he has taken the Garden Scene, the soliloguy of Gretchen before the image of the Mater Dolorosa, and the Scene in the Cathedral; while from the second part the composer selected the opening scene with Ariel and the spirits, the scene with the Four Grey Women, Faust's Death, and his Apotheosis. The whole of the music is designed for concert purposes and not for the stage.

There is no other work of Schumann's so remarkably unequal in merit. This arises from the fact that the various numbers were written at long intervals. The third part, which is unsurpassed by anything from the composer's pen, was written, with the exception of one chorus, in 1844, when his powers were at their ripest. The other scenes were composed in 1849 and 1850, while the overture dates from 1853. The work was not published until after Schumann's death.

The first part of the music, which was the latest composed, is unquestionably the least interesting. Schumann's genius was in sympathy with the ideal and fantastic rather than with the actual, and the music of the Garden Scene, and still more that of Gretchen's prayer which succeeds, is laboured and heavy. The choral portion of the Cathedral Scene is impressive, but the general effect of the first part of the work is tedious in the extreme. The second part, which gives more scope to the imagination, is superior to the first. The commencement of the scene for Ariel and the scene with the Four Grey Women contain much that is beautiful, but there is also a great deal that is laboured, and that seems the product of as a vocalist. Frau Peschka-Leutner, who intellect rather than of imagination. On as Eglantine made her first appearance with the other hand, the Epilogue, which forms

the third part of the music, is of extraordinary beauty. The choruses of Happy Spirits, the songs of the Penitents, of the Pater Seraphicus, the Pater Profundus, and Dr. Marianus, in which the mystic words have inspired such wonderfully appropriate music, lead to a climax of extraordinary power in the scene where the now redeemed Gretchen prays to be allowed to attend upon the spirit of Faust. The magnificent "Chorus Mysticus" which concludes the work, and which Schumann composed twice, is fully worthy of all that has preceded.

The immeasurable superiority of the third part of the work to the first and second has been so generally recognized that it is usual in Germany to give the final scene only, a precedent which has been followed in previous performances in London. We are certainly not disposed to find fault with the directors of the Symphony Concerts for giving us the opportunity of hearing the entire work. At the same time the result proved the wisdom of the course generally spursued. The earlier numbers are, with the exception of occasional passages, so uniformly dry and heavy that the audience were far too fatigued, not to say depressed, by the time the glorious third part was reached, to be able to appreciate it as it deserved. What made matters worse was the outrageous length of the concert. The 'Faust' music is quite long enough to occupy an entire evening, but it was preceded by Mendelssohn's 'Meeresstille' Overture and Beethoven's Overture and Beethoven's Pianoforte Concerto in a (charmingly played, be it said, by Mr. Halle), the consequence being that the concert did not terminate till a quarter past eleven, and that a large number of the audience left before it was over.

Of the performance of the exceptionally difficult music we can, on the whole, speak favourably, though there were some points open to criticism. The principal solo parts were given by Mrs. Hutchinson, Miss Larkcom, Miss Orridge, Messrs. Shakespeare, Santley, Savage, and Bridson, and Herr Elmblad. Mrs. Hutchinson sang the music of Gretchen with considerable taste; but we recommend her, if she wishes to take a high position, to pay much more attention to the conductor's beat. She ruined the effect of her finest solo—that in the last scene — because her ideas of the time differed entirely from Mr. Halle's. Mr. Santley did all that could be done to impart life to Faust's tedious solos in the second part; but Herr Elmblad was singularly coarse and rough as Mephistopheles. The chorus was on the whole exceedingly good, though we must with all deference take exception to some of Mr. Halle's tempi in the third part. The wonderfully poetic opening chorus and the great chorus in a flat, "Gerettet ist das edle Glied," lost much of their beauty by being taken considerably too fast. We must also enter a protest againt the use of the first version of the final chorus instead of the second. The score contains the express indication, "Zweite Bearbeitung (der ersten vorzuziehen)"; and the music is so incomparably superior that it ought always to be given in preference to the first. In spite, however, of some shortcomings, the performance of the 'Faust' music was one which reflected great credit on Mr. Halle as well as on the forces under his direction.

The production of Herr Rubinstein's ora-torio 'Paradise Lost' by the Philharmonic

Society on Friday week was naturally regarded with much interest even in this

eventful season, for the composer is one of

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the most prominent musicians of the time. Of his works hitherto placed before our notice, it may be said that their value has been in inverse ratio to their dimensions, and we fear that 'Paradise Lost' will scarcely be considered an exception to this unfortunate rule. Herr Rubinstein has written some charming trifles for the pianoforte and some interesting chamber music; beautiful ideas may also be found scattered upand down his orchestral and choral works; but he seems incapable of a sustained effort, and hence in the larger departments of composition he is uniformly unsuccessful. His first oratorio, 'The Tower of Babel,' performed at the Crystal Palace last year, was remarkable for a preponderance of ugliness, with a few pleasing numbers which scarcely relieved the prevailing gloom. In 'Paradise Lost,' which is a much longer work, dulness and pretentiousness exist in about equal proportions. The subject is vast, and the musician who attacks it must be possessed of considerable hardihood. Whether Herr Rubinstein would have succeeded better with a more impressive and dignified libretto cannot be said; but certainly the anonymous author of the present book has done nothing to assist him, his treatment of the momentous theme being not only puerile, but grotesque and even blasphemous. Presumably taking Milton's great epic as his foundation, he has contrived to divest the story of all power and beauty, and what remains is so much melo-dramatic nonsense. The work is divided into three parts, of which the first deals with the rebellion in heaven, the conflict, and the expulsion of the evil angels; the second describes the creation of the terrestrial world; while the third is occupied with the temptation and fall of man. Among the most objectionable features of the libretto are the ludicrous dialogue between Adam, on his first perception of life, and the Supreme Being, and the scenes with Satan and his legions, who employ language worthy of transpontine melo-drama. The Deity is represented throughout as a comparatively feeble being, who is constantly foiled in his designs, and is at last completely defeated. The music is, for the most part, in the legitimate oratorio style, with far less of dramatic feeling than we find in the works of some modern composers, notably those of Mendelssohn. Certain of the lengthy choruses, as, for example, that of the celestial conflict, the fugue at the end of the second part, and the final number illustrative of the expulsion from Paradise, show considerable ingenuity of contrivance, but little or no real grandeur or breadth, the effects being bombastic rather than impressive. A few of the quieter numbers possess some melodic charm, but even in these we fail to trace any invention or independence of thought. In brief, 'Paradise Lost' is a gigantic blunder, and the neglect which it has suffered since its production at St. Petersburg six years ago cannot be considered sur-prising or unmerited. Still, no blame can attach to the Philharmonic Society for afford-

likely to be repeated either by this or any other musical body. The performance may be termed, on the whole, satisfactory. The choral rehearsals had been exceedingly numerous, and the singers were fairly equal to their work, except that in the double choruses the voices sounded weak and thin, a larger force being obviously required for the proper effect. The principal soloists, Miss Rose Hersee, Mr. Barton M'Guckin, Mr. Ludwig, and Signor Foli, left nothing to desire in the discharge of their somewhat thankless duties. Herr Rubinstein's work was preceded by Schubert's unfinished Symphony in B minor, a needless addition to the programme, as the oratorio occupied fully three hours. The Philharmonic season just concluded has been marked by more vigour than had characterized the proceedings of the society for many previous years, and, though further reforms are desirable, the improvements already effected deserve frank recognition. The directors announce a series of six concerts for next season.

The twenty-fifth and last Saturday concert this season at the Crystal Palace was signalized by the production of a symphony by Signor Sgambati, under the personal direction of the composer. It is understood that the work, which is not yet published, is the Italian musician's most recent effort of importance, and therefore represents his style in its latest development. This, indeed, might be gathered from the symphony itself, which in strength and consistency is a great advance on the pianoforte concerto played at the Philharmonic Concerts. The influence of other composers is no longer perceptible, or, at any rate, is so only to a small extent. At the same time Signor Sgambati evinces no desire to depart from orthodox models, for he has adhered to the ordinary laws of construction in symphonic work, and has even refrained from the modern custom of giving a title or programme to his music. The only innovation—for which, however, there is a precedent-consists in the insertion of a second slow movement as a kind of introduction to the finale. In its general character the symphony is neither purely Italian nor German, but combines the grace and elegance of the former style with the breadth and intellectuality of the latter. The most successful portions are an andante mesto in a minor, and the section already mentioned, which takes the form of a serenade for strings only. The scherzo is not remarkable, but there is much excellent writing in the first and last movements, and the scoring throughout is admirable, some of the effects, when only a few instruments are employed, being extremely happy. The work was received with more than ordinary cordiality, and at its conclusion the composer was twice recalled to the platform. Later in the programme Signor Sgambati per-formed Beethoven's Piano Concerto in a flat; and the overtures 'Son and Stranger,' Mendelssohn, and 'Genoveva,' Schumann, commenced and concluded the concert. Mdlle. Carlotta Badia and Mr. M'Guckin were the vocalists, the former introducing an air from M. Massenet's new opera 'Hérodiade.' To-day Mr. Manns takes his annual benefit, the programme containing no novelties, and at the conclusion of the performance the long-deferred presentation of the testimonial to the esteemed conductor ing a hearing of the work, though it is not

will be made in the theatre of the Crystal Palace.

The seventh Richter Concert on Monday evening consisted of a performance of Beethoven's great Mass in D, the revival of which excited so much interest last year. This colossal work is no longer regarded with dismay by musical societies or conductors, but its frequent performance is scarcely desirable in the interests of executants, for the strongest voices would speedily suffer injury under the fearful strain imposed upon them. The rendering of Monday was one of the finest within our remembrance so far as regards the choruses, the sopranos, who have the hardest work to accomplish, being superior to the other sections. But the attack in all parts of the choir and the attention to accent and nuance were truly admirable. The solo parts were entrusted to Frau Peschka Leutner, Miss Orridge, Mr. Shakespeare, and Herr Elmblad, of whom the three first named left nothing to desire. At the next concert, on Monday evening, the programme is rendered attractive by the repetition of Wagner's 'Siegfried Idyl' and Liszt's 'Hungarian' Rhapsody in F, but the production of Mr. Hubert Parry's new Symphony in G is inevitably postponed in consequence of the rehearsals of 'Tristan und Isolde.'

### Musical Cossip.

THE 144th annual festival of the Royal Society of Musicians will be held next Wednesday at St. James's Hall, when Lord O'Neill will be the president of the day.

The first production in England of Wagner's 'Tristan und Isolde' is to take place at Drury Lane on Tuesday evening. It will interest our readers if we give the exceptionally strong cast of the work—Tristan, Herr Winklemann; Isolde, Frau Sucher; Brangäne, Fräulein Marianne Brandt; Marke, Herr Gura; Kurwenal, Dr. Kraus; Melot, Herr Landau; and Hirte, Herr

Among the innumerable benefit concerts now Among the innumerable benefit concerts now taking place, that of Mr. Cusins, at St. James's Hall on Wednesday afternoon, deserves note, as the programme included a new "grand" Trio in c minor from the concert-giver's pen. Written apparently under the influence of Brahms, and containing much that seemed of doubtful significance at the first hearing, the work has some good points, notably the second subject of the first movement and the peroration of the finale. The executants were Mr. Cusins, Herr Straus, and Mr. Howell.

A GRAND concert is to be given at the Royal Albert Hall next Saturday afternoon by Herren Franke and Pollini, at which the whole of the German artists now engaged at Drury Lane are to appear. The concert will be conducted by Herr Richter.

Mr. Franz Rummel gave a pianoforte recital on Friday week at St. James's Hall, which was well attended. The programme was a distinct improvement on some recent entertainments of this description, containing a larger proportion of sterling works and fewer selections intended for mere executive display. No less than twelve composers were represented, the most prominent items being Bach's 'Chromatische Fantasie,' Beethoven's Sonata in r minor, Op. 57, and Schumann's Sonata in g minor, Op. 22. Mr. Rummel is a sound rather than a sensational pianist, and his playing is therefore more calculated to satisfy the musician than to astonish the ordinary listener. He has a sensitive touch, and has execution is singularly correct and well balanced.

THE Cambridge University Musical Society gave its Easter term orchestral concert on

Tuesday afternoon in the Guildhall. The principal feature, or, at any rate, the most lengthy item in the programme, was Dr. Garrett's sacred cantata 'The Shunammite,' a new work which has been accepted for the forthcoming Hereford Festival. The Biblical episode upon which it is founded forms part of Sir Michael Costa's cratorio 'Naaman,' but there is no similarity in the methods of treatment. The Italian composer's manner is dramatic and sensuous, whereas Dr. Garrett is essentially a church composer, and his setting of Scriptural texts is marked by the placidity of style associated with English cathedral music. We note the influence of Handel in the recitatives and of Mendelssohn in the lyrical numbers, but not a scintillation of individual thought; and the music, therefore, quickly becomes monotonous and wearisome in the concert-room, however appropriate it might be in "choirs and places where they sing." The performance, with Miss Anna Williams, Miss Hilda Wilson, Mr. Abercrombie, and Mr. F. T. MacDonnell as the soloists, was in every respect satisfactory, but the audience was cold and apparently unimpressed. Previous to the cantata a surprisingly good performance of Beethoven's Violin Concerto was given by Herr Gompertz, who combines breadth and every other technical qualification of a first-class violinist. The Cambridge Guildhall is now possessed of an excellent organ by Hill, which will be of great service in the performance of sacred works. Mr. Villiers Stanford conducted the concert in his customary able

Méhul's 'Joseph,' originally produced in 1807, has just been revived with great success at the Opéra Comique, Paris.

### DRAMA

### THE WEEK.

GAIETY.—Representations of Mdlle. Bernhardt: 'Frou.' par Meilhac et Halévy; 'Le Sphinx,' par Octave Feuillet.

Feuillet.
PRINCESS'S.—' Romany Rye,' a Romantic Drama in Five
Acts. By G. R. Sims.
HER MAJESTY'S.—Representations of Signor Rossi: 'King
Lear.'

As Gilberte in 'Frou-Frou' Mdlle. Bernhardt shows the high-water mark of her powers. In it also she displays the improvement that has been effected since her last visit. Far short of tragic is, of course, the crisis which is attained at the close of the third act of 'Frou-Frou.' By making the heroine a type of frivolity, and representing as the outcome of petulance and temper the action which brings about the catastrophe, MM. Meilhac and Halévy have dissociated 'Frou-Frou' from most other dramatic work. That folly may be as destructive as crime is the only lesson taught. The element of fatefulness, which is the most potent in tragedy, using the term in a wide sense, is accordingly absent. All Mdlle. Bernhardt has to do is to present a poor nature stung into mad action and broken by the consequences it had been unable to foresee. The character was, as is known, intended for Desclée, among whose eminent and delightful gifts tragic power was not included. Mdlle. Bernhardt presents Gilberte as gayer and more fantastic than she appeared in the rendering of Mdlle. Desclée. Her animal spirits in the early scenes are intoxicating. In the scene with Louise which concludes the third act a point of absolute intensity is reached, but it is purely nervous. This is finely indicated, the thin, sharp rage of the heroine—who has nothing of womanhood except its resoluteness, and who is still, in fact, but a

spoiled child—being admirable. In piteous appeal the entry of Frou-Frou in the last act has rarely been surpassed. The concluding scene of all is in the actress's more familiar style and has much pathos and beauty. Neither Marguerite Gautier nor Adrienne Lecouvreur can claim to be quite so finished a study as Frou-Frou. In M. Feuillet's sombre drama 'Le Sphinx' Mdlle. Bernhardt now substitutes for the role of Berthe de Savigny, which she has hitherto played, that of Blanche de Chelles, formerly taken by Mdlle. Croizette. While not less powerful than her predecessor in the death scene, which constitutes the only opportunity afforded an actress, Mdlle. Bernhardt is more artistic. The repellent details of physical suffering disappear, and in their place is a death agony which, while remaining within the domain of art, is profoundly impressive. The engagement of Mdlle. Bernhardt terminates to-night.

To those who, on the strength of previous

work, foresaw in Mr. Sims a writer capable of restoring to the drama a portion of its ancient glory, 'Romany Rye' is a grievous disappointment. Mr. Sims's new play is, indeed, no drama at all. A mere stringing together of situations and scenes which offer opportunities to the scene-painter, the mechanist, and the costumier, it has not cohesion enough to be quite intelligible. Like a practised general conducting a review, Mr. Sims places his combatants in positions where the evolutions may be contemplated at ease by the spectators. A shipwreck is always an effective scene, so he sends to America on a fool's errand his heroine and other of his principal characters, then, in order to have them at hand for the dénoûment, represents the vessel that holds them as foundering before she is well out of port. Hampton racecourse is introduced because it affords opportunity for the collection of varying types of mendicants and criminals; a bird-fancier's shop in the Seven Dials is exhibited because it reproduces for the delight of the public a scene with which it is necessarily familiar. Of dramatic continuity, however, there is scarcely a trace. For any one scene introduced, any other scene might without loss be substituted. This is not the way in which to produce dramatic work. Mr. Sims accordingly must, unless he intends to satisfy himself with the cheapest form of popularity, retrace his steps and commence at the point from which he set out. His play, in spite of the overwhelmingly favourable reception awarded, has none of the qualities necessary to work that will survive. The cleverness of a part of the dialogue fails to win forgiveness for the turbid character of the greater portion, and the whole representation of life is sordid. There is little opportunity for acting. Mr. Wilson Barrett bears himself well and shows the gifts of the prize-fighter and the athlete, and Miss Eastlake screams with a persistency and a success which seem almost suggestive of demoniac possession. The scenery is excellent, and some of the mechanical changes are remarkable.

Signor Rossi's performance of Lear undergoes modification as it proceeds. On Monday night the words "Ay, every inch a king," alone were spoken in English. When on Wednesday 'Lear' was given for the second time, the Italian language was

abandoned during the whole of the last That Signor Rossi is in any sense master of our tongue cannot be said. He speaks it, however, distinctly and with accurate if rather laboured delivery. Rash as the experiment may be pronounced, it is at least preferable to the course at first adopted. The sense of discomfort experienced at the constant change from one language to another overpowers all possibility of enjoyment. If proof were wanting of this fact it is supplied in the changed attitude of the audience. Indifferent during the first three acts, the public warmed into absolute enthusiasm in the fourth, at the close of which it twice summoned Signor Rossi before the curtain, while the close of the performance brought with it a second manifestation scarcely less flattering. That we have little to learn from the Lear of Signor Rossi has already been said. It is too artificial, too wanting in dignity and repose, too Italian in fact, to commend itself to English tastes. The make-up of the actor is also unsatisfactory. In the fourth act alone does he rise to intensity, and even in this the amount of facial play disturbs rather than impresses those who are accustomed to a different method in art. Miss Lydia Cowell as Cordelia was tender and in every way satisfactory.

### Bramatic Cossip.

A one-act trifle, entitled 'The Villainous Squire and the Village Rose, produced at Toole's Theatre, caricatures happily enough the characters and business of the two adaptations of 'Far from the Madding Crowd' at present in course of performance in London. Mr. Byron, from whose pen it is, has found his materials in a dramatic sketch he wrote some years ago for a Dramatic College fête. In the principal character, that of the villainous squire, Mr. Toole acts with his known drollery. A three-act play, by Mr. Welborn Tylar, given on Wednesday at a morning performance at the same house, is slight, but not wanting in interest or power to amuse. In a representation competent throughout Miss Clara Jecks distinguished herself by a very natural and womanly piece of acting.

A version, by Lady Monckton, of 'La Vengeance du Mari,' first produced under the title of 'The Countess' at Sir Percy Shelley's theatre at Chelsea, and transferred yesterday afternoon to the Prince of Wales's Theatre, is not without literary as well as dramatic merit. It was given by a company consisting nominally of amateurs, but comprising more than one actor who is likely to adopt the stage as a profession.

FRENCH actors are occasionally guilty of practices which no management in London is likely to allow. Among these is the habit of never doffing gloves which have once been donned. Last week the representative of a physician wore his glove while feeling the pulse of a patient. During the present week the spectacle was afforded of a musician similarly equipped playing a reverie on the pianoforte.

Nor very successful thus far have been the novelties produced in Paris during the summer interregnum. The attempt to interest the public in the scientific drama, commenced at the Gatté by M. Figuier with a piece on the adventures of Denis Papin, has been received with indifference; and a new comédie-vaudeville by MM. Vast-Ricouard, given at the Ambigu under the title of 'Les Cerises,' has been a complete failure.

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